THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 1ST NOVEMBER.

THE LAND AGITATION is raging furiously in Ireland. The scope of this agitation may be perceived from the addresses delivered by Mr. Parnell at two monster meetings, one held at Kilkenny composed of 10,000 persons, and the other at Cork attended by upwards of 30,000 persons. The following is the substance of Mr. Parnell's speeches :

The people of Ireland (he said) are to-day engaged in a great struggle for the land of the country, which was wrested from them seven centuries ago by the force of arms. (Cheers.) We believe that we shall, in the course of a short period, obtain that restitution of the land of this country which is due to the people of this country, (Cheers.) Landlordism—an institution created for the purpose of maintaining English rule in Ireland, and for the interests of the few against the many—will have to fall. (Cheers) (A voice : " Lord Mountmorres fell.") How did it fall in Prussia? The tenants enjoyed what is called fixity of tenure at valued rents, but the system of fixity of tenure at valued rents was found so intolerable to the Prussian tenants that the State was compelled to come in and put an end to the rights of the landlords over the land—(cheers)—with a system of land tenure far more just to the tenant than that which we possess—a system which under the name of tenure at valued rents is advocated to-day for Ireland by many able, earnest devoted and talented men. It was found necessary, in Prussia to go still further and to do that for Prussia which we ask may be done for Ireland to-day (Cheers) The King of Prussia issued an edict giving the landlords two years in which to transfer the land to their tenants and he told them, in this same edict, that if they did not agree with their tenants as to the terms of the transfer within two years, that then by the King would step in and transfer it himself. (Cheers and a voice : " You may be King of Ireland yet.") (Another voice ; " We will make him President" cheers.) Mr. Parnell : The landlords were unable to make terms with their own tenants and the King of Prussia at the expiration of the two years fulfilled his promise and he gave the land to the tenants as their own. (Cheers.) He compensated the Prussian nobles by giving them State paper bearing 4 per cent interest and he decreed that the tenants should pay interest on this debt for a certain number of years—40 years I think it was—and at the end of that time there should be nothing further to pay (cheers.) Now, we ask to-day for a settlement on a somewhat similar basis and we say that what Prussia was able to pay at the commencement of the century England ought to be able to do to-morrow or in a short while. (Cheers.) I believe and I should be very sorry to mislead any body I should be very sorry to raise the hopes of the tenants of this country but I am perfectly confident that if they will follow our advice, within a very brief period we shall have transferred two-thirds of the land of Ireland from the Irish landlords to the tenants—(cheers)—and the annual payments to be made by the tenants for a period of say thirty-five years will be very much less than the present rack rents that they are obliged to pay. (Cheers.) A Voice ; We will give them what Lord Mountmorres got.' Perhaps during the next session of Parliament the Gladstone Ministry will offer us some worthless concessions not worth our acceptance—(cheers and a Voice ; " Obstruction. obstruction then)—but I feel sure that in that case the longer a settlement of the question is delayed the worse terms the landlord will get. (Loud cheers.) It would be better for them to come forward now and to offer fair terms to the Irish tenants for I tell them that if they do not we shall soon be in the position of victors and shall be able to dictate our own terms. (Cheers.) While, then some of the old habit of subservience and lavish obedience still remain amongst the Irish tenantry it is time for the landlords to come forward and to make their proposition. We have made ours, and we say that interested as we are in the welfare of the shopkeepers of Ireland the trading community of Ireland the merchants the labourers every class who earn the right to live in this country by hard work either physical or mental we say that interested as we are in the welfare of those classes determined to do our very utmost to make Ireland great glorious prosperous and free—(loud cheers)—to take the power of governing Ireland out of the hands of the English Parliament and people and to transfer it to the hands of our own people—(loud cheers)—determined as we are to achieve those ends we believe that we can only achieve them by making the land of Ireland as free as it was when the waters of the floods left it. (Prolonged cheers.)

The Government proposes to prosecute Mr. Parnell and other agitators for their inflammatory speeches.

SIR BARTLE FRERE, though recalled, met with an ovation on his return to England. He was received at Southampton by a deputation, which included among others Sir Richard Temple. An address, signed by a number of Cape merchants resident in London, was also presented, in which regret was expressed that Sir Bartle Frere's work of bringing the native races into that state which is essential for their civilisation had not been carried out to its completion. In reply, Sir Bartle Frere said that he could not feel any misgiving as to the permanent success of a policy, which he felt assured would be found to be based on principles, which both the Imperial and Colonial Governments would desire to see recognised in South Africa.

THE FREEDOM of the City of London has been conferred upon Sir Henry Bessemer, F.R.S., "in recognition of his valuable discoveries, which have so largely benefited the iron industries of the country, and his scientific attainments, which are so well known and appreciated throughout the world."

THE ST. PETERSBURG correspondent of the *Times* telegraphs that all the editors of the chief Russian journals of St. Petersburg, which have been more and more outspoken of late in their demands for Liberal reforms, were last week called before Count Melikoff and told that their continual discussion of a Constitution for Russia had highly displeased the Czar and the Court, and that nothing more on that subject would be allowed to appear in print. This fact ought to convince our countrymen what sort of freedom exists in Russia.

THE MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION was formally opened on the 1st October by the Governor of Victoria, the Marquis of Normandy, in the presence of the Duke of Manchester and the Governors of South Australia, New South Wales, and Western Australia. The Marquis of Normandy, in reply to an address, said the undertaking had been carried out in a creditable manner, and that the display was one of which any country might be proud. The day was observed in Melbourne as a public holiday.

GARIBALDI lately paid a flying visit to Genoa from Caprera. The object of his visit was to see his son-in-law, Canzio, who is undergoing three months' imprisonment for certain revolutionary utterances calculated to incite the populace to insurrection. Garibaldi was most cordially received by enormous crowds of people, who lined the road through which he drove to his daughter's house. The General looked worn-out and feeble ; and when he reached his daughter's residence he was utterly exhausted, and went to bed. The populace called for his re-appearance, but it was explained to them that this was impossible, and they quietly dispersed. The proceedings were orderly from first to last, and the people seemed to be animated by but one desire—to give a glad and hearty welcome to the man who had done so much in the re-constitution of United Italy. It is stated that the Government will amnesty Canzio and his companions as soon as it can do so with a good grace.

TUESDAY, 2ND NOVEMBER.

SIR THOMAS GLADSTONE, the elder brother of the Premier, made a bitter attack on the Government in addressing a gathering of Conservatives in Kincardineshire. Sir Thomas was particularly astonished and disgusted at the "audacity" with which Mr Forster had ventured to attack the House of Lords, and he severely censured the Cabinet for not compelling the Chief Secretary to resign his office at once. So there is division in the camp.

IT IS stated that a deputation, representative of the Scotch universities, will wait upon Lord Hartington, with the object of protesting against the regulations introduced into the preliminary education of the civil servants while Lord Salisbury was at the India Office, particularly against that which compels students who have been successful in the first examination to pass the time required for preparing for the second at a university in which they can be residents. The Scotch universities, particularly Aberdeen, complain that this provision practically deprives them of the chance of training civil servants at all, as the whole theory and practice of education in Scotland are opposed to the residential or boarding system, and these cannot be revolutionised for the mere chance of obtaining a few students. Lord Salisbury declined to hear any representation on the subject ; but more success is hoped for with Lord Hartington. An attempt is being made to take advantage of Mr. Fawcett's visit to Scotland to interest him in behalf of its universities.

THE LUCKNOW WITNESS, a Missionary paper, has the following :

Our Calcutta correspondent refers to the incident which has awakened much interest in both private and public circles of Bengal, to wit, the admission into the Calcutta Sanskrit College of one Surendra Nath Barat, who had received Christian baptism, from whom it is not said, but claims never to have broken his Hindu caste, and now solemnly declares that he has no faith in the Christian religion. The incident seems to us instructive chiefly as a warning to missionaries not to baptise converts unless it is distinctly understood that they will throw off the bonds of caste and observe the second sacrament of Christianity as well as the first. Otherwise they will be extremely likely to do just as Surendra Nath has done, repudiate their conversion as soon as any pressure is brought to bear upon them. We are not at all anxious to see a lot of half-and-half Christians received into the churches. Quality is of more consequence than quantity.

Quite right. May we ask in how many cases has there been conversion from conviction ?

ONE OF the greatest novelties of the day is the Phonographic Orchestrion, an instrument which on being turned by a handle plays any tune of which the music sheet is placed on its roller. The music sheet is made of strong paper which is pushed under a slit where the several tongues are placed and is perforated with notches that allow the air from the bellows into the slit, according to the tune that is to be played. One of the best results of this combination is that the tunes may be varied *ad infinitum*.

MR. CASPAR PURDON CLARKE has been appointed to make purchases of Indian art objects to complete the collection exhibited at the India Museum' South Kensington, and will soon leave for India. A fund of about £8,000 has been placed at his disposal of which £3,000 has been contributed by the India Office, this sum being the unexpended balances of the money received on account of the exhibition of the Prince of Wale's Indian presents in 1876, and expressly reserved by his Royal Highness fer the purpose of promoting the interests of Indian art. He will make purchases in particular of the metal art of Madras and Cashmere, the wood carving of Ahmedad and Canara, the pottery of Madura and Mooltan, and the textile fabrics of Masulipatam, Jeypore, Dacca, Lucknow, Delhi, Ahmedabad, Sindh, Bangalore, Malabar, and Central India.

MR. V. BALL of the Geological Survey has written a paper on diamonds in India. He says :

There are in India three extensive tracts, widely separated from one another, in which the diamond has been sought for. The most southern of these has long borne a familiar name, which is, however, to a certain extent, a misnomer. There are no diamond mines in Golconda. This name, originally applied to a capital town, now represented by a deserted fort in the neighbourhood of Hyderabad, seems to have been used for a whole kingdom ; but the town itself was many miles distant from the nearest of the diamond mines, and it was only the mart where the precious stones were bought and sold. The second great tract occupies an immense area between Mahanunda and the Godavery rivers ; and the third great tract is situated in Bundelcund near the capital of which Punnah, some of the principal mines are to be found. The work of the Geological Survey has demonstrated that the diamonds occur in the Vindhyan rocks of Northern India. In the upper division of this formation there is a group of clay slate (Rewah,) and the lower is a group of sandstone (Semrl,) in both of which diamond-bearing beds are met with. It is still very doubtful, however, if a diamond has yet been found in India in its original matrix. Mr. Ball gives an account of the chief mines, describing in detail, from personal observation, that of Sambalpur which has now for some time ceased to be productive. The Punnah mines are still productive, yielding a mean annual produce of between £40,000 and £60,000 a year. Europeans have attempted diamond-mining in each of these three tracts, but in no one instance have their operations been attended with success, and yet there does not appear to be the least ground for supposing that there has been any real exhaustion of the localities where mining is possible. In diamond-mining there must necessarily be a considerable amount of individual handwork. There are immense facilities for peculation. It would almost seem that to work it profitably a system of slavery must be adopted. It is, therefore, to be distinctly understood that, except by a mere chance, diamond-mining will not prove a rapid road to fortune. Still, writes Mr. King, " for those content with a slowly-paying occupation and a hard life, involving close personal supervision of the workers, it would pay provided such persons possessed capital sufficient to last them a few years."

WEDNESDAY, 3RD NOVEMBER.

UP TO the present it has been ascertained that there are 12 widows and 35 children rendered destitute by the landslip at Naini Tal, and 4 men, 11 women, and 5 children who have applied for aid, having lost their all. There are 30 native families to be provided for. Relief to the extent of Rs. 23,500 has already been allotted.

NATIVE CHRISTIANS seem to be more addicted to the hubble-bubble than non-Christian natives. The *Indian Christian Herald* says : " Could no steps be taken to counteract a hankering, in season and out of season, after the hubble-bubble, which interferes materially with the continuity of our meetings ? Verily, it operates, at times, as an unmitigated nuisance, and we are disposed to go in for an interdict on tobacco at least on all special occasions." Such a rage for the hubble-bubble is not to be seen among non-Christian natives at public meetings.

WE COMMEND to our young men, who aspire to clerkship as the only calling in life, the following just remarks of Professor Fawcett :

As to clerks he had noticed that it not unfrequently happened that a youth, because he had received rather more schooling than his father, thought he would better his condition by leaving off the trade business or handi-craft to which his father had been accustomed in order to seek employment as a clerk. Considering the overcrowded state of the clerk market at the present time he thought it was impossible to take a more unfortunate step. Sometimes he was afraid that a young person was prompted to adopt the course by the very silly feeling that he would occupy a better social position if he was employed as a clerk than he would if he earned his living by trade.

So England too is afflicted with the evil of clerkship.

CONSERVATISM is "the final mental attitude of the most unprejudiced men of culture towards all institutions which, whether old or new, are at least the natural product of the wholesome growth, and not the artificial result of arbitrary change." So said Lord Lytton in opening the Hertford Fine Art Exhibition the other day.

THE TIMES OF INDIA'S London Correspondent says that some of the Asiatic students at the Inns of Court announce their intention to form a society having for its object the abolition of the present examination in Roman law as one of the "pass" subjects for barristers, on the ground that it sets up a new obstacle to their progress to the bar. Many men of influence with the Inns of Court are said to sympathise with the movement.

GENERAL KAUFMANN, says the same correspondent has returned from Kuldja, and proceeded to the province of Ferganah, with the object of inspecting the column of observation under the command of General Abramoff. It is said that while at Margilen the Governor General will hold a durbar of the frontier chiefs, at which representatives from Karategin and Parnir beyond the border will attend. "During the summer Margilen has been completely fortified in the European manner, and now forms one of the strongest Russian posts in Central Asia." The probabilities are now strong that an advance will be made by the Russians from Turkestan on Merv in order to co-operate with the Akkal Tekke Expedition, for which purpose, doubtless, the Governor of Samarcand has received instructions from General Kaufmann to prepare means of transport for four battalions.

THURSDAY, 4TH NOVEMBER.

THE ORIENTAL MISCELLANY for November to hand. There are several interesting articles in this number, which will amply repay perusal. There is a new feature in this periodical in the shape of "Notes on the topics of the day." We have much pleasure in transcribing the following :

The *Hindoo Patriot* publishes a letter from Mr. L. S. Jackson (now Sir Louis Stuart Jackson) to the late Raja Prasannanath of Dighapatia. It establishes the charge brought by the *Patriot* that our ex-justice, when judge of Rajshahye was not above using his position in order to get possession of the Rajah's house which the Rajah was unwilling to part with. It appears that about the time of Mr Gouldsbury's departure from Rajshahye in 1857, the Rajah in the course of an interview with Mr. Jackson dropped some vague hints to the effect that Mr. Jackson might have the house vacated by Mr. Gouldsbury. Afterwards he changed his mind and intended to keep the house for the use of his son Kumar Promotho Nath then a pupil of the Rajshahye school. On this Mr. Jackson wrote to the Rajah reminding him of his promise. Though Mr. Jackson must have known that no *nudum pactum* is binding we cannot find any fault with him for asking the Rajah to abide by his promise ; though the tone of his letter might have been a little more courteous. Mr. Jackson went further and told the Rajah that natives however high their position, occupying houses in the European quarter, are apt to become nuisances to their European neighbours. In fine the Rajah was coolly advised to build a house in the Native quarter for his own use. The force of impertinence could no further go. The only parallel to this is to be found in a letter addressed by a certain official of North Bengal to the Maharani Swarnamayi telling her that she ought to subscribe at least a lac of rupees for the support of a certain educational institution, inasmuch as she had paid Rs. 8000 to Dr. Sarkar's Science Association and Rs. 10,000 to the Krishnaghur College Fund. When officials beg a favour they ought for decency's sake to lay aside the imperious style of their perwannahs. When the Bedouin Arab scimitar in hand accosts the traveller and tells him, "Please lay down your coat and purse for the sake of your cousin (chacha zadi) my wife," he could not be more courteous than some consummate bullies in the public service whom we could name. The more these things come to light the better for the country.

WE THANK Dr. Rajendralala Mittra for a copy of his edition of Vayu Purana, Fasci. VI. This number contains a preface to the work, in which the editor gives an account of the materials with which he has worked. In the preface he has discussed the principles on which ancient Sanskrit works should be edited. The learned editor says :

I think the proper rule to follow is what has been laid down by Dr. Max Muller—to give every reading that admits of a meaning and every blunder in orthography, etymology or syntax which is constant or generally prevailing ; but to take no note of what are mere accidental lapses. There are many obvious blunders and *lacunæ* in Mss. which bear no relation to their authors and for critical purposes are of no value whatsoever. The manner in which due discrimination is made between what are obvious blunders and what are doubtful and unquestionable variations, marks the distinction between the critical and the uncritical editor. This is but a trite axiom to notice but some difference of opinion having arisen in connection with the works published in the 'Bibliotheca Indica,' it is necessary to explain the principles which have been followed by me and some of those who have worked under my advice and guidance.

Dr. Mitra's opinion on a subject like this is entitled to the greatest weight.

REFERRING to the dinner given to General Roberts at Bombay by Sir James Fergusson, the *Bombay Review* says : "Amidst a fairly representative company of Bombay residents—besides the inevitable heads of departments—they met several native citizens, with their ladies in graceful oriental attire. Nor was there wanting a bright dash of the Raja element to complete the picture." Who were these native ladies ? Parsis or Hindus or an admixture of both ? Did they handle knives and forks ? Bombay is really ahead !

THE SAME JOURNAL has the following : "An instance of official overzeal is given in its last by the *Mitra* of Gujarat in which poor Desai K. H. is the victim of blundering officialism. The Desai was summoned, it seems before an official, in connection with a case. The clerk who wrote out the summons put wrong date. Naturally enough, the Desai could not attend on the actual date. Hereupon he is served with a peremptory warrant, which is the indicator of official wrath at white heat in the Mofussil. And here we are sending a warrant (of arrest ?) against a leading citizen for the fault of the summons—scribe ! Put an Anglo-Saxon Captain or Major in place of the Aryan Desai, and try to imagine what would follow." Will Sir James Fergusson take no notice of this official Bahadurism ?

MR. PATRICK RYAN, Barrister-at-law, succeeds Mr. Nana Moroji as third Magistrate of Bombay. So this berth is taken away from natives !

THE CROPS in the territories under the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal may now be pronounced out of danger : there will not be a bumper crop in all the districts, but sufficiently abundant to be considered much above the average. In the district of Backergunge the ryots consider the prospects too good ; in fact they complain of low prices. The late rains have done some harm in Jessore and Bogra ; cold weather sowings have been retarded by rains. In Beerbhoom the late rains have done more harm than good. In Durbhanga and Champarun rain is wanted badly.

WE ARE SORRY to learn that there is an unusual prevalence of fever in the district of Purneah, where half the population has been prostrated by it.

FRIDAY, 5TH NOVEMBER.

IT IS STATED that the Madras Government have resolved to send Miss Bernard, an Eurasian lady, and Miss Shanmukhum, the daughter of a Native convert, to England for the purpose of being educated in England under the care of Miss E. A. Manning. The object is to bring them up as tutoresses for Indian girls schools. We think the first object of Government should be to find competent Vernacular teachers for Indian girls.

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE is busy in passing through the Press his new work, "India in 1880." The topics discussed are as follows : Progress, moral and material, of the natives ; national education ; religious missions ; native States and Chiefships ; official classes, European and native ; non-official Europeans ; law and legislation ; revenues ; canals and irrigation ; roads and railways ; products, agricultural and industrial ; commerce, internal and external ; famines ; public health and sanitation ; physical science ; learned research ; foreign relations ; armies ; navy and marine ; finances ; and statistical summary. In an introduction Sir Richard will point out the claims that India has on the attention of Englishmen, and his final chapter will be devoted to discussing the effects and prospects of British rule.

WE HAVE much pleasure in reproducing from the *Evangelical Review* the following remarks of the late Mr. Sherring on the Bengali :

Excited by western ideas derived from reading and study, the Bengalee has endeavoured to put in practice the new conceptions he has formed on many matters, and thereby a fresh excitement has been imparted to him. Or his condition may perhaps be represented as one of *intellectual* excitement which having once been generated and having been nourished by its achievements has gone on continually increasing. Unquestionably at the present time the educated classes of Bengal especially those persons who having imbibed the true spirit of knowledge have been anxious faithfully to follow its leadings are in a state of extraordinary mental excitement and restlessness. Englishmen looking on are very apt to suppose that much of this mental state of the Bengalee arises from, and indicates presumptuousness and conceit. Hence he is commonly spoken against and misjudged, his faults are exaggerated, his motives are distorted and the very efforts he is making to improve himself are held up to ridicule. Now all this is most unfair and reprehensible. Considering the entire revolution which he is undergoing, intellectually and socially it would be a miracle if the Bengalee did not make many mistakes and did not often place himself in a ludicrous position in the opinion of hyper-critical and fault-finding Englishmen. The whole circle of European learning has been suddenly opened out to him, he has been called upon to alter or abandon his former notions on many important topics in the wide range of human knowledge which he has studied in the new aspects in which they have been presented to him with all the intensity of his most active mind ; he has found himself transformed into another being utterly discontented with the stagnation of most of his fellow-countrymen ; and is it at all remarkable that many of his ideas should be crude and that for the most part he should fail to master his situation and that his situation should master him ? All his shortcomings are remediable. Knowledge like strong food is slow of digestion ; but give it time and the process will be accomplished. The Bengalee has a glorious future before him a future in which if I mistake not he will shine conspicuously as the leader of public opinion and of intellectual and social progress among all the varied nationalities of the Indian Empire. When he attains to the full stature of himself when his mind has become thoroughly mature when he preceives the true bearings of the knowledge he has acquired and in his person and life exhibits that advanced civilization which he only now hears about and reads about but which has not yet except to a very meagre extent passed into his being when he has thus been refined in the crucible of wisdom and has become a genuine lover of virtue and a sturdy champion of the truth then he will occupy that exalted position in India as a counsellor and guide to its teeming inhabitants, which his talents already indicate to be that which he ought to fill.

WE ARE GLAD to learn that Lord Lytton in recognition of the valuable services rendered by Rai Gopal Chunder Sircar Bahadur, as treasurer to his lordship, has been pleased to send him from England a gold watch and chain as a present.

A CORRESPONDENT informs us that Babu Nisikant had misunderstood Dr. Aufrecht, who complained of his edition of *Ujjvaladatta* having been pirated by Pandit Jivananda Vidyasagara, and not Halayudha, which he has not edited. This will explain the contradiction, which we published in our last issue.

THE EAST gives a doleful account of the ravages of the epidemic fever in some of the districts of East Bengal, in Dacca and Mymensing especially. It is said to be committing great havoc in certain villages within the sub-divisions of Tangail, Manickgunge and the police station of Shabhar. Our contemporary refers to the pitiable condition of a village named Dhamrai situate within the limits of the last-named police station, which has associated with it some remarkable reminescences of antiquity. It is supposed to have been settled in the eighth century of the Christian era. It had once a population of about 1400 families of Brahmins, Kyusths and weavers, the latter forming a majority. It is now reduced to barely 350 or 360 families. The fever has taken away nearly 250 persons, all of whom died without any medical treatment whatsoever. The Magistrate has sent a Native Doctor, it is true, to the village, but his presence is of little use, as there are no medicines to dispense.

SATURDAY, 6TH NOVEMBER.

A FRIEND writes to us as follows :

We commend the following extract from the *Poineer* to the notice of all rayat's friends who once interested themselves in the Indigo disturbances of Bengal. It is fortunate that Sir Ashley is too well acquainted with the affairs of this country to miss the point of our contemporary's account of the Ticcadari system of Behar. :—

"The distinction set up between a rayat and a tenure holder is very important and it is an addition to the substantive law. It is best explained by an illustration. If a lease for an indefinite period of five hundred bighas of land be given to an indigo planter by a zamindar, the former will be a tenure holder even though he cultivate the land with his own stock and servants. He will not acquire a right of occupancy in it by twelve years' undisturbed possession but at the end of that time his tenure will be permanent and transferable.'"

Our contemporary might have better fulfilled his part as a leader of Anglo-Indian public opinion by introducing in his illustration the provisions about three years' occupation, and those about compensation and exhancement of rent in the event of such improvements as an Indigo planter might always lay claim to.

A NEW PAPER will be started at Poona to be called the *Maharatta*, with which will be incorporated the *Deccan Star*. We wish it every success.

SIR JOHN STRACHEY, it is stated, will leave Simla on the 20th instant, and pay a visit to Barielly of a fortnight's duration. What is his object ?

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals : 1. Annual Report on the administration of the land Revenue in Assam for 1879-80. 2. Trade and Navigation Accounts of British India for September, 1880 and the six months from 1st April to 30th September 1880. 3. A Treaties on Lightning conductors, by Patrick McGuire. 4. Memorial of the Lahore Indian Association to the Viceroy and Governor General in Council on the subject of high education in the Punjab. 5. Babu Hemchunder Banerjee's List of wonderful Medicines of a Hindu Hermit. 6. Kabitanund Lahuri or Slokas in Sanskrit with Bengali translation. By Obhoya Churn Turkanidhi. 7. Sutir Durgutti, a Drama in Bengali. By

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Radhica Churn Chatterjea. 8. Avash, a Bengali periodical for Kartick 1287. B. E. 9. Industrial Products of India. By George C. M. Birdwood C. S. I. M. D.

WE HAVE received a copy of a memorial of the Indian Association of Lahore on High Education in the Punjab.

THE PIONEER in reviewing the New Rent Bill says: "The draftsman has carried his technical refinements to a great pitch, and the result is an Act which, however well it may work in the courts, will not be intelligible to either landlord or tenant without the aid of a lawyer." But the Rent Commission flatter themselves with the belief that the new Law will give Bengal "a paradise of peace," a veritable kingdom of heaven upon earth!

WE ARE sorry to learn that ill-health has compelled Babu Hem Chunder Kerr to take sick leave for three months. Kumar Gopendra Krishna Deb, who officiated for some time as District Registrar of Calcutta during Babu Protapa Chandra Ghosha's absence, and at present in charge of the Subdivision of Culna, has been appointed to act for Babu Hem Chunder Kerr. The selection is excellent.

WE ARE GLAD to observe that the charge against Babu Surjee Kumar Surbadhicary, the well known medical practitioner, of having caused the death of Mrs. Wiguhn's child by doing a rash and negligent act, has been dismissed by a bench of Magistrates. Their Worships were of opinion that the evidence did not disclose any negligence on the part of the doctor. They did not even call upon the defendant to go into evidence. They accordingly discharged him. We hope a full report of the case will be published. We reserve remarks till the publication of the report.

THE LUCKNOW TIMES has ceased to exist or properly speaking it has been metamorphosed into "the Express." It was to have been started as a daily paper, but this desirable step has been deferred "only however for a short time." One important feature of the publication in its new shape is the reduction of rates.

AS STATED by us last week the Sealdah line of the Calcutta Tramway has been opened to traffic from Monday last. Hitherto the run has been very successful.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London, October 31.—Mr. Charles Dickenson Field has been appointed a Puisne Judge of the High Court, Calcutta.

An address was delivered yesterday by Lord Northbrook at the Birmingham Institute upon Indian administration, when he praised warmly the loyalty and enlightenment of many native Princes and eulogised the bravery of the troops. His Lordship also said that the dealings of the Indian Government with native Princes must be guided by treaty stipulations, and that we should show sympathy with nobles and the educated classes, associating them, as far as possible, in the administration of India. We should cherish and reward native officers and soldiers, and rule the people with patience, introducing changes cautiously. Further, we should govern India for the benefit of natives, and above all secure the maintenance of peace.

November 1.—Sir Robert Lush has been appointed a Lord Justice of Appeal.

November 2.—Mr. Bertram Wodehouse Currie has been appointed to the seat in the Indian Council vacant by the death of Sir William Mereweather.

2.—The second part of the report of the Indian Famine Commission has been published. It exhaustively deals with the consideration of preventive measures for the protection of the country against famines. The Commission recommends the immediate appointment of an officer to initiate a special department, the fundamental principles of its work being dealing with Agricultural Statistics and Famine Administration, and whose duty it would be to bring to the notice of the Indian Government the several propositions contained in the report, in view of an early decision upon them.

3.—The indictment for conspiracy against the Irish land leaguers, has been formally lodged. County Cork has been gazetted and proclaimed as disturbed.

4.—A farewell banquet was given to the Right Hon'ble Mr. Adam at Cupar yesterday. In a speech which he made on the occasion, he advocated direct negotiations being entered into with Russia to determine the line of demarcation in Central Asia, beyond which she shall not interfere and he condemned the policy of the late Government in its dealings with Afghanistan, which, he said, if it had proved successful, would have brought neither moral nor material advantage to India. Mr. Adam, replying to a deputation that waited upon him at Edinburgh for the purpose of urging upon him the inadequacy of provision for elementary education in India, said he admitted that it had been somewhat neglected in favour of higher education, but warned them against appearing to proselytize and treating the religions of the country unequally. He also said that he was ignorant of the present state of education in Madras, and therefore he could not make any promise then, but he undertook to give attention to the subject.

Berlin, October 30.—The Prussian Government has placed Hamburg in the minor state of siege in consequence of the action of socialist democrats.

Constantinople, October 30.—Dervis Pasha has been instructed by the Porte to arrest and deport all Albanians showing any obstinacy to his orders. Negotiations with the Porte have not been resumed.

Cape Town, October 29. The Colonial troops have captured Lerothodi's stronghold. The Pondomese and Transkei have risen and murdered two Magistrates.

Capetown, November 1. Official Reports state that the condition of affairs is critical, as several tribes have joined the Basutos.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210 Bow-Bazar Street.)

Practical class in Chemistry under Baboo Tara Prasanna Roy, F. C. S. F. I. C., this Afternoon at 4½ P. M.

Lecture by the Very Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., C. I. E., this Evening, at 7 P. M.
Subject: Rotatory Polarization.

Lecture by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Tuesday, the 9th Inst., at 7 P. M.
Subject: Arago's Rotations and their explication by Faraday.

Lecture by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Friday, the 12th Inst., at 7 P. M.
Subject: Change of State produced in bodies by Heat; Leidenfrost's Phenomenon.

Lecture by Babu Tarra Prasanna Roy, F. C. S., F. I. C., on Saturday, the 13th Inst., at 3 P. M.
Subject: Carbonic Oxide.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1880.

THE REPORT OF THE RENT-LAW COMMISSION.

XV.

WE continue our review of the land systems of Europe:

FRANCE.

France is the most successful example of peasant proprietorship. There the land is chiefly occupied by small proprietors, who form the great majority throughout the country. Property is generally divided into three classes:—1. Properties averaging 600 acres, numbering about 50,000. 2. Properties of 60 acres, numbering about 2,500,000. 3. Properties of 6 acres, numbering about 5,000,000. With some rare exceptions all the great properties have been gradually broken up, and even the first and second classes are now fast merging into the third. To such an extent is this the case, that even at the present moment 75 per cent. of the agricultural labourers in many departments are proprietors. The parcels of land held by them are oftentimes not more than a rood in extent, intersected by other holdings, and very often separated by considerable distances. This parcelling out of the land, although increasing every day, is to be found prevailing more especially in the Departments of the Cote d'Or, Haute Marne, and Haute Saone. The land is also occupied by tenants holding from proprietors, and by "metayers," the nature of whose occupation will be explained below. But the tenants and metayers are in many instances small proprietors themselves, so that it may be said that small peasant proprietorships form the rule.

Tenure.—Generally speaking, the division of property naturally does not admit of large farms except in some of the purely agricultural departments, and then they partake more of the character of experimental farms. M. Chateauvieux writing in 1846, estimates the number of acres farmed by tenant farmers at 16,940,000, against 70,000,000 cultivated by proprietors and "metayers." The extent of the lease varies from one year to thirty years, according to the quantity of land, the mode of cultivation, and the custom of the Department. The tenant has a right to sublet his farm, unless the terms of his lease forbid it. In the case of sub-letting the original tenant is responsible. A lease can be made either by writing or by verbal agreement. If there is no written contract the duration of the lease depends upon custom. If a dispute arises as to rent, arbitration is resorted to, and the tribunals decide. So long as the tenant pays his rent and fulfils the conditions of his lease the landlord cannot interfere with him. No law or custom can alter the contract. In the case, however, of what is termed "dommages parcas fortuits ou force I majeure," he has the right to demand a reduction of rent. The tenant has the right to sell his interest in his farm unless his lease forbids his so doing. Almost every lease, however, stipulates that he shall neither sublet his farm, or sell his interest in it without the consent of the landlord.

Rent.—Payment is made generally by a fixed amount in money. Payment in kind prevails in some Departments; this system is gradually disappearing. Payment by share of the produce constitutes what is called the "metairie" system. In the "Code Civil" the "metayer" is called "colon partiaire." He is a tenant who pays no rent in money, but gives to his proprietors a certain portion of the produce of the land which he farms. Formerly it was one half. In fact it is a system by which the proprietor gives his land, and the "metayer" his labour and the cultivation, for which, if either fail him, he can claim no compensation. The system is becoming less and less resorted to, and now obtains in only a few department. The amount of rent is entirely a matter of arrangement between the landlord and tenant. A farm may, however, be put up to competition as regards rent and the sale of produce. There is no law, custom of valuation, which regulates such transactions. The periods of the payment of rent vary according to custom and locality, but are generally agreed upon in the lease. The landlord cannot break a lease nor alter the amount of rent as long as it is in force. The tribunals alone can order an eviction or annul a lease on account of the non-fulfilment of its conditions.

There is no special law, which regulates the respective rights of landlords and tenants. They depend upon the "Droit Commun." If the tenant does not pay his rent the landlord can seize his effects, and the Tribunal annuls the lease, the landlord has privilege over all property belonging to the tenant in such case.

Evictions.—In the case of evictions there is no special procedure. The "Droit Commun" alone regulates the proceedings of the proprietor in such circumstances. When the tenant does not pay his rent, he is summoned by the proper authority to do so within twenty-four hours. If upon this payment is not made, the proprietor, if the lease is a verbal one, obtains an order from the Judge for the seizure of all the effects of the tenant, which are on as well as off the farm. If the lease is a written one, and in order, he can do this by virtue of it alone. The tenant can take advantage of any irregularities in the proceedings to gain time. Article 1244 empowers the Judge to use indulgence towards tenants whom he may consider to have been hardly dealt with, and to grant them time for the payment of their rent.

Improvements.—The proprietor generally constructs all buildings, and must maintain the farm "clos et couvert." If the tenant builds, he does so at his risk and peril. At the end of his lease he can remove such buildings, as he is only obliged to leave on the farm what he found on it. The proprietor has no right to the buildings and improvements made by the tenant, who, in his turn, is bound to deliver up the farm in the same condition as he found it on entry. The relations between landlord and tenant are laid down by Articles 1763 to 1778. In practice, however, there is generally an understanding between them respecting improvements. For example, if the tenant wishes to drain, the landlord advances a certain sum, and the tenant pays 3 per cent. interest. The same system is adopted if new buildings are required. While peasant proprietorship has undoubtedly benefited France it has materially checked increase of population. Official statistics show that during a period of twenty-five years, 1836-61, the rural population has undergone a diminution of 1·18 per cent. while that of the towns has constantly increased. In 1846 the proportion of the rural population was 75·78 per cent. and that of the urban 24·22 per cent. In 1861 the proportion was, rural 71·14, and urban 28·26 per cent. and this ratio has not greatly varied since. The decrease in the number of children in the families of the peasantry is a fact fully established by the "Enquete Agricole," and it is generally remarked by those to whom questions on this subject were put, that there is a progressive tendency to diminution of fecundity in the families of the agricultural population

PRUSSIA.

PRUSSIA has been the subject of violent land legislation. The Prussian Legislature had, apart from the abolition of the feudal system, for its object the conversion of all land tenures into absolute ownership. It began by fixing the relations of lord and peasant as they then were. It based upon those fixed relations its plan of regulation. It proceeded to ascertain the obligations and rights on the part of the lord as well as the peasant. It denied compensation to certain obligations and rights It awarded compensation to the remaining obligations and rights. It then proceeded either to strike the balance or to provide the method for striking the balance between them. It laid down the principles of compensation. It forsaw the possibility of that compensation amounting to the value of the peasant's income from the land. It, therefore, prevented that compensation from reaching such an amount as to render the peasant destitute and unable to retain his land, and as to thereby defeat the object of State policy. It recognized, at any rate during part of its period, the inutility of investing a peasant with absolute ownership of his land, unless that land were sufficient for his maintenance. It provided a special quick procedure for all questions of regulation and commutation, and established rent charge banks to facilitate the transition from the old to the new system

Lord Loftus, who in 1869 made a very able and interesting report on land legislation in Prussia, thus remarks: "It must not be forgotten that Prussia has proportionately shared in the universal increase of national wealth and welfare. It may therefore be truly said that Prussia, by her agricultural legislation., prepared herself skilfully to take advantage of all opportunities for increasing her prosperity, and that without such legislation she would not have been able to avail herself of them. Let the praise be equitably distributed. But neither let it be maintained that the national prosperity of Prussia is to be attributed solely to her agricultural legislation, nor let it be ignored that that prosperity owes much, indeed, to the great principles which underlie that legislation. Neither let it be advocated to follow blindly the example of Prussia in agricultural legislation, nor let it be ignored that, though her agricultural conditions were peculiar and her details of operation were specially adapted, yet her principles of agricultural legislation may be suitable to promote agricultural and national welfare in other countries."

THE VICTORY OF GENERAL ROBERTS.

GENERAL ROBERTS has left the country. Calcutta has had no opportunity of honoring him, whileBombay has missed the splendid opportunity it had. We cannot, however, chronicle the departure of this successful Indian General from our country without offering him our humble tribute of admiration. The despatches published in a recent *Gazette of India* give the reader a clear idea of what a glorious feat at arms was performed by the forces under the command of Lieutenant-General Sir F. S. Roberts at Kandahar. It was a victory of which any military commander might well feel proud. The skill and manœuvre which led to the relief of Kandahar and virtual annihilation of Ayub's last hopes have established Sir Fredrick Roberts' reputation for generalship on a solid foundation. The forces under Sir Fredrick Roberts which proceeded from Kabul to the relief of Kandahar, consisted of 9986 men of all arms and 18 guns; of the former 2,562 were British troops and 7,151 native. They marched through a distance of 318 miles in 23 days including two halts. Major-General Ross C. B. commanded the infantry division of the army, consisting of three brigades, each of which was commanded by Brigadiers-General Macpherson, Baker, and Macgregor and the cavalry Brigade by Brigadier-General Hugh Gough C. B. V. C. The forces were accompanied by 8134 native camp followers in the capacities of doolie-bearers, followers in the transports, and other departments, syces of native cavalry regiments, and private followers. For supplies and the carriage of foot-sore soldiers the number of transport animals provided was 8,255, which were afterwards supplemented by 415 more purchased on the line of march; in these there were 733 casualties. The whole of the Affghan transport drivers deserted shortly after leaving Kabul, as well as the Bazaru drivers, which threw exceptionally heavy work upon the troops. We will not trouble the reader with dry details relating to the arrangements for supplies for men and provendor for horses and other animals. At Ghazni the General commanding was met by the Governor, who delivered over to him the key of the city gates. For the execution of the demand for supplies, for the preservation of order, for the prevention of collisions between the troops and people, British gaurds and sentries were placed around Ghizni. The next place reached was Khelat-i-Ghilzai where nothing of importance occurred. On the 21st August at Shahjui heliographic communication was opened with Khelat-i-Ghilzai, which enabled the General to be apprised of the sortie from Kandahar on the 10th idem. On the 31st idem the force reached Kandahar, and position was taken on the west of the city with the right on the cantonments and the left touching old Candahar. To avert severe loss, which was expected from any attempt to carry Babawali Kotal by a direct attack, the General determined to turn it. To obtain information regarding the strength and precise extent of the country occupied by the enemy a column for reconnaissance was sent under the command of Brigadier-General Gough. Proceeding towards the high ground immediately above a village named Gandigan where halting the infantry and the cavalry advanced two or two and a half miles. In front of a village called the Pir Paimal the enemy was found strongly entrenched. As soon as the enemy's fire along this line had been drawn, the 3rd cavalry forming a part of the reconnoitering force fell back. In the meantime the guns were brought into action, partly to test the range, and also to check the enemy, who were now observed to pass rapidly into the gardens near Gandigan. The infantry and artillery of the reconnaissance were ordered to retire within the picquets; seeing our troops commence to fall back, the enemy advanced in great strength and pressed the infantry. They eventually assembled in such large numbers and endeavoured so persistently to follow, that the whole of the troops of the 3rd brigade and part of those of the 1st were ordered under arms. The reconnaissance abovementioned having afforded the General all the information he required it was decided to attack the enemy on the following morning, the 1st September. The plan of operations was explained to the officers commanding divisions and brigades, which were to threaten the enemy's left at Babawali Kotal, and to attack in force by the village of Pir Paimal. Without a sketch of the scene of the struggle the reader will not be able to form an adequate idea of the military skill of the operations which commenced. We may therefore state in brief that the infantry upon whom had devolved the duty of carrying the enemy's position was formed up in rear of the low hills in front of the British Camp, while the cavalry was held in readiness in rear of the left resting on Chilzina, the object being to threaten the rear of Ayub's Camp and intercept the line of his retreat towards Girisk and Kokrey Gandey. Being detailed for the protection of the city the remaining troops under the command of Lieutenant-General Primrose were ordered to be distributed for certain specified duties. The enemy opened a desultory fire upon our front from the orchards connecting two villages Gandigan and Gandi MullahShahibad and our well-directed shell-fire was opened from the Babawali Kotal. The action commenced with fire from 46 pounders upon the Babawali Pass. Shortly afterwards the brigades were ordered to the attack, the first brigade on the right, the 2nd on the left, and the 3rd in reserve. The village of Gandi Mulla Shahibad was carried by the 1st brigade. After severe fighting the 1st and 2nd brigades emerged at the point of the hill near Pir Paimal, which was taken possession of soon after noon. On the receipt of the news of the success of the troops under Major General Ross the 3rd brigade in reserve drawn up in front of the village of Abasabad was ordered to support the General's further advance. But Ross pressed forward without waiting for re-inforcements. The enemey retired to a position, after the capture of Pir Paimal, of an entrenched camp to the south west of Babawali Kotal, commanding an open space of ground. This position was taken. The enemy was now completely routed, but General Ross could not realize the extent of the victory he had won. Expecting the enemy to take another position he had halted his troops to replenish their ammunition. After having advanced a mile he found himself in sight of the enemy's camp, standing deserted, and apparently as it had been left in the morning, when the Affghans moved to the attack. Thirty-two guns including the two lost at the battle of Maiwand fell into the hands of the English. Thus was the victory completed. The strength of Ayub's forces is estinated at 12,800 men of all arms, of which 4,000 were regular infantry. Our loss was 40 killed and 228 wounded. To use the words of His Excellency the Viceroy in Council, Sir Fredrick Roberts thus achieved one of the most complete and successful operations of recent times.

SIR JOHN STRACHEY'S SALT ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE CHIEFS OF RAJPUTANA AND CENTRAL INDIA.

WE have more than once drawn in these columns the reader's attention to the manner in which the new salt arrangem ent resulting in the abolition of the Inland Customs Line had been concluded with the Native Princes of Rajputana and Central India. The October number of the London *Statesman* contains a valuable article on this subject under the title of "Jockeying the Native Princes," which deserves and demands notice. The writer effectually exposes the absurdity of Sir John Strachey's plea that the Customs Line has been abolished *with the consent of the Native Princes*, and he shows that "the measure was carried out by placing heavy pressure upon those Princes to compel them to acquiesce in a scheme that raised the price of salt upon the millions of their own subjects, to the same rates that prevail in our own territory." He observes :—"It was a most desirable arrangement for ourselves, but a very objectionable one to the Native States, whose Princes felt an honourable repugnance to a measure that raised the price of this necessary of life in their territories to our own rates. We must not be understood to blame Sir John Strachey for desiring to see the Salt Line abolished. It was a desirable reform in itself, and one that might with propriety have been kept in view in every modification of our engagements with the Native States affected thereby. What has been concealed is the fact that the measure was forced upon the Princes, and has been the occasion of the deepest heart-burnings amongst them. Our Indian officials are simply trustees of the English nation, which has a just expectation and a right to be told of the true story of their proceedings. But this is what Indian officials never held back from the cou rses they are bent upon, by any notion of accountability to the nation for their conduct. A certain policy seems to them desirable or necessary, and they follow it without scruple as to the means; but they take precautions that the English people are kept in ignorance of those means. Thus the nation is made to believe that the Native States co-operated cordially with us, in carrying out a measure that was obnoxious to them to the last degree. Their consent was wrung from them by a course of procedure that the nation would never have sanctioned had the facts been disclosed to it. Pressure of the most improper order was used to compel the assent of the Native Princes to a measure that they abhorred." The accuracy of these observations will be questioned by few, who know the true history of Mr. Allan Hume's salt negotiati ons with the Nati ve Princes, which created such excitement in Rajputana and Central India in 1877 and 1878.

The abolition of the Inland Customs Line had for a long time been the hobby of Sir John Strachey. The first step to give effect to the "convictions of a life-time", which he took in this matter, was taken when he persuaded Lord Mayo to acquire the Sambhar Salt Lake from

the Chiefs of Jeypore and Jodhpore to whom it belonged. The sudden death of Lord Mayo and the accession of a strong and right-thinking man like Lord Northbrook to supreme power in this country, arrested, for a time, the progress of Sir John's scheme. But an excellent opportunity for carrying out the measure, on which Sir John had set his heart occurred, when Lord Lytton, like Lord Mayo, proved an apt pupil in his hands. In order to abolish the Inland Customs Line, it was necessary to do two things:—(1) to equalise the salt duties throughout India; (2) to suppress the manufacture of salt in Native States. Mr. Allan Hume was charged with the duty of compelling the Chiefs of Rajputana and Central India to surrender the salt-producing tracts in their respective territories to the British Government and to acquiesce in the imposition of a salt tax of Rs. 2-8-0 per maund on their subjects—a blessing which they had never enjoyed before. It is needless to say that Mr. Allan Hume could not have successfully accomplished the task entrusted to him, but for the powerful support he received from the Governor-General's Agents in Rajputana and Central India and from the Foreign Office, which is the Earthly Providence of our feaudatory chiefs. The Government has not dared to lay before the public the papers connected with the new salt arrangements, for the simple reason that they cannot bear the light. But although the Government has kept the whole thing a profound secret, the public know generally what was done. The British Government was bent upon acquiring the salt-producing tracts in Rajputana and Central India and upon imposing the burden of a salt-tax upon the people in those provinces; and the Native Chiefs with whom Mr. Allan Hume opened negotiations could not but accept the terms which were offered to them. They were obliged to comply with the wishes of the Paramount Power; for they knew well what would befall them if they refused to do so. "They fear," as the writer in the London *Statesman* points out, "the resentment of the Simla Foreign Office, and with but too good reason." The Foreign Office can, indeed, make and unmake Native Princes. Woe be to the feudatory chief who has the misfortune to incur the displeasure of the Foreign Office or of its representative accredited to his court! We can easily understand why the Native Princes affected by the new arrangements have not dared to let the public know the true story of Mr. Allan Hume's negotiations.

That the British Government has been a great gainer by the new salt arrangement concluded with the Native Chiefs of Rajputana and Central India, is well known. It has been saved the cost and inconvenience of maintaining the Inland Customs Line. The abolition of the Line has resulted in a considerable saving of expenditure. Again, the salt revenue of British India has greatly increased by the imposition upon the people of Rajputana and Central India a salt tax at the same rate which prevails in British territory. But we must look to the other side of the picture—to the effect which the new arrangements have produced on the Feudatory States affected thereby. The annual payments by the British Government for the salt sources lately acquired or rather wrested from theNative Princes, aggregate only 8½ takhs of rupees per annum; and we are asked to believe that these payments have liberally compensated the Chiefs for the salt-revenue and transit duties, which they and their feudatories have been compelled to forego. But we refuse to accept the statement, the chiefs did not derive more than the paltry sum of 8½ lakhs of rupees from the salt-revenue and the transit duties which they have been forced to give up. We should very much like to know what amount of revenue, one of the States affected by the new arrangements—viz., Bharatpore—has lost in consequence of the suppression of salt manufacture within its territory. Nor is the decrease of revenue the only evil which these arrangements have inflicted upon the Native States in Central India and Rajputana. The suppression of the salt manufacture has deprived large numbers of people in the Feudatory States of the means of earning their bread. If we have been correctly informed, about 60,000 persons have been thrown out of employment in Bharatpore alone, in consequence of the surrender of the salt sources in that State to the British Government. The supporters of Sir John Strachey's measure contend that although people of the Native States in Rajputana and Central India have now to pay much more for their salt than they used to do before, they have no reason to complain of the action of the Paramount Power in this matter, because they are compensated by the total remission of the British sugar duty. This contention is utterly untenable. The abolition of the sugar duty is a very poor compensation for the imposition of a tax of Rs. 2-8-0 per maund on salt. Sugar is an article of luxury; whereas salt is a necessary of life and health. Thousands of persons could do without taxed sugar; but a single soul cannot dispense with taxed salt. The sugar duty was paid by the well-to-do classes; while the burden of the salt tax falls even upon the poorest of the poor. We readily acknowledge that the Inland Customs Line was a barbarous institution and a fruitful source of oppression; but there is no reason why its abolition should have been made the occasion for the imposition of a salt tax on the people of Rajputana and Central India, for the benefit of the revenues of British India. Well might the writer in the London *Statesman* say that this transaction "has left smouldering in the hearts of the Princes a very deep sense of our injustice."

It cannot be urged in defence of Sir John Strachey's policy that the only possible way of doing away with the obnoxious Customs Line was to force the new salt arrangements upon the Chiefs of Rajputana and Central India. There can be no doubt whatever that the much desired reform could have been effected, without compelling the Native Princes to acquiesce in a measure which they abhorred. The Maharaja Holkar's late able and enlightened Minister, Sir Madava Rao, showed how this could be done. In a memorandum submitted to Lord Northbrook in November, 1874, Sir Madava Rao proposed that the British Government should allow the Indore State to obtain "salt from the Bombay pans at prime cost, at the cost at which Bombay salt is permitted by the British Government to be exported beyond the limits of British India." In other words, the proposal was to permit the State to purchase salt at theBombay pans at prime cost and to bring it into the Maharaja's territory *free of British duty*. Sir Madava Rao clearly showed that by accepting the proposed arrangement the Government would not lose any of its revenue from salt. As the writer in the London *Stateman* remarks.—"The proposal was so just, so natural, so statesman-like, that it should have been accepted instantly. It was a way of getting rid of the obnoxious Customs Line, without loss to any one, and with direct positive gain to every one." If the Native States had been invited to tax salt at the same rate as the British Government does, and to grant their subjects an equivalent remission of other duties which press upon their people and are unpopular, the abolition of the Inland Customs Line would have been brought about in a really statesmanlike way. There is every reason to believe that had he remained in India, Lord Northbrook would have acted on Sir Madava Rao's valuable suggestion. But the just proposal of the Maharaja Holkar's Minister did not suit Sir John Strachey's plans. He found it necessary, in order to carry out his hobby of equalising the salt duties throughout India, to recoup the heavy loss that would be caused by the reduction of the duty levied in Northern India; and this could only be done by imposing a salt tax on the people of Central India and Rajputana for the benefit of the British Revenue. Let the reader mark the *statesmanship* of Sir John Strachey. He deliberately throws away many lakhs by reducing the salt duty in Bengal and the North-Western Provinces of which nobody complained, and to fill the gap thereby caused he compels the Native Princes in Rajputana and Central India to surrender the salt sources in their territories to the British Government and to tax their subjects in order that the Finance Minister may be enabled to give effect "to the convictions of a life-time," at another's expense. Such is the statesmanship of Sir John Strachey, which we are called upon to admire. "The dishonour," as the writer in the London *Statesman* remarks, "is too deep for words."

THE REPORT OF THE FAMINE COMMISSION.

IV.

IT is not surprising that Sir John Strachey's ardent admirer and disciple, Mr. Charles Elliot, the real author of the Report of the Famine Commission, should condemn the famine policy followed in Behar by Lord Northbrook on the ground that it involved lavish and wasteful expenditure of public money and tended to demoralize the people. But we have shown, on the testimony of the Famine Commissioners themselves, that the administration of relief in Behar in 1873-74 did not render the people indisposed to return to their own homes as soon as the distress was over. On the contrary, the people recurred to their own unaided labour for support as soon as they could do so without risk of starvation, and what is still more cheering, they regarded the famine loans as a sacred obligation, which they fulfilled to the best of their ability. But facts, though stubborn and undeniable they be, are ignored by theorists like Sir John Strachey and his disciples. If the administration of relief in Behar in 1873-74 had broken down the habits of thrift and self-reliance in the people and rendered them indisposed to return to their usual occupations after the distress was over, it would certainly have been an incalculable misfortune and a grave evil.

The Famine Commissioners point out what classes of the people suffer from famine. They write:—"The first effect of drought is to diminish greatly, and at last to stop, all field labour, and to throw out of employment the great mass of people who live on the wages of such labour. A similar effect is produced next upon the artizans, the small shop-keepers, and traders, firstly in villages and country towns, and later on in the larger towns also, by depriving them of their profits, which are mainly dependant on dealings with the least wealthy classes; and lastly all classes become less able to give charitable help to public beggars, and to support their dependants. Such of the agricultural classes as do possess a proprietory interest in the land, or a valuable right of occupancy in it, do not as a rule require to be protected against starvation in time of famine unless the calamity is unusually severe and prolonged, as they generally are provided with stocks of food or money, or have credit with money-lenders. But those, who owning only a small plot of land, eke out by their profits their wages as labourers, and rack-rented tenants-at-will living almost from hand to mouth, are only a little way removed from the class of field labourers; they possess no credit, and on them pressure soon begins. Thus the classes, who are the earliest in point of time to feel the need of relief, are (1) actually landless class who live on the wages of labour, and the smallest proprietors or occupiers; (2) artizans and small traders; (3) infirm persons and beggars who ordinarily live on the charity of the public or of individuals; and (4) the dependants of all persons who by reason of their own distress can no longer support them. These classes again fall into two chief categories: (1) those who are accustomed and able to perform work of some sort; and (2) those who from any cause are incapable of labour." It will thus be seen that the classes that suffer most from famine are those who have no land or almost no land. "The problem to be solved," say the Famine Commissioners, "is how to avoid the risk of indiscriminating and demoralizing profusion on the one hand, and of insufficient and niggardly assistance on the other—how to relieve all who really need relief, and to waste as little public money as possible in the process." Yes, this is the problem to be solved. But the solution proposed by the majority of the Commission consisting of General Richard Strachey, Mr. H. S. Cunningham and Mr. J. B. Peile, is not at all satisfactory. They lay down what they are pleased to call "certain broad self-acting tests," by which to ascertain the proper objects of State aid in time of famine; and they recommend that no person shall receive

relief who does not submit to these tests. The chief of these tests proposed is the Labour test; and it is the only one, which the majority of the Commission think it is ordinarily desirable to enforce. They explain what this test means. It "is the demand of labour commensurate in each case with the labourer's powers, in return for a wage sufficient for the purposes of maintenance but not more." The Famine Commissioners observe :—"This system is applicable of course only to those from whom labour can reasonably be required; it provides a plain and intelligible method of relief for the great mass of the population; it affords the means of ascertaining necessity, detecting imposition, and procuring for the State some useful return for its expenditure, and it avoids to a large extent the demoralising influences of purely eleemosynary aid." No intelligent and unprejudiced man will deny the desirability of making famine labourer to do some work in return for the wages paid to him. But then the wage should be *really sufficient* for the purpose of maintenance, and the labourer should *not be made to work beyond his powers*. The Government ignored both these important conditions in dealing with the late famine in Southern India; and the consequence was a heavy mortality. The people would rather die of hunger than accept employment on the so-called relief works. Sir Richard Temple's famous one-pound ration was shown by experience to be insufficient for maintaining labouring people in health; and the exaction of task-work forced numbers of persons to leave the relief works and abandon themselves to their fate. It is one thing to lay down rules on paper and a quite different thing to work them in practice. It is all very well to declare that no labourer on a relief work shall be required to labour beyond his powers and that he shall receive a wage sufficient for the purpose of maintenance. But every thing depends upon the manner in which the principles are carried into practice.

By far the most important portion of the report of the Famine Commission is certainly that in which the Commissioners lay down the main principles of famine relief. They say :—"The following are the main rules of action which we consider most likely to conduce to the efficient administration of relief in times of famine :—

I. To lay down a definite system of procedure, to be embodied in a famine code, which the Local Governments will carry out, subject only to financial control on the part of the Government of India. At the same time to provide by the aid of a special department of the Government, an improved system of recording information on subjects connected with famines and of collecting and dealing with the statistical returns relating to the weather, the agriculture, the health and the well-being of the people, and thus to secure the most prompt and accurate knowledge attainable of a probable failure of crops, and of the extent and consequences of any failure that actually takes place. Further, to concentrate the control of the various branches of the administration concerned in famine relief and to render their action most efficient.

II. To provide for the offer of employment at the cost of the State to persons capable of work and deprived of the means of earning their livelihood by reason of drought such employment being offered in time to secure them against the danger of falling into an enfeebled condition through want, and being adapted to the capacity of labourers.

III. Simultaneously to offer gratuitous relief as far as possible, in their villages, or if the case shall so require, in poor-houses to persons who in such times are left without the means of support, and are from any cause incapable of providing for themselves; attention being given to the great importance of avoiding any thing that may tend to weaken the coherence of the village community, of working through the village officers or headmen, where such authorities exist, and of making use of any available local help for superintending the relief operations

IV. To organise a suitable system of village inspection and control, through which the condition of the country and the efficiency of the measures of relief may be ascertained and defects brought to light and corrected, and the people encouraged to avail themselves of the measures offered

V. To maintain a policy of non-interference with the ordinary operations of trade unless in some exceptional condition of affairs where there may be evidence that without such interference the supply of food will not be maintained, but to keep a constant watch over the food supply of the people in time of threatened or actual scarcity, and to remove any impediments in the way of the free movement of trade; measures being also taken in anticipation of the time of need to extend and improve to the utmost, and in all parts of the country those means of communication on which the distribution of the food directly depends, and those means of irrigation by which its production may be profitably increased and secured.

VI. To grant aid to the land-owning classes in two ways: First, to relax the demand for land revenue at a time of wide-spread loss of the harvest suspending it freely in proportion to the degree of that loss, on the condition that a proportionate relief is given to tenants and others who hold subordinate rights in the land.

Secondly, to give loans both to small landed proprietors who are in need of such assistance, and also to large proprietors who may be trusted to apply the money usefully.

VII. To lay down with precision the limits within which the principle of local responsibility for meeting expenditure on relief shall be applied to provincial Governments; and to require the municipal authorities in the towns and the local committees in the districts to co-operate in carrying out relief measures for the local population."

These are the main principles of famine relief, which have been laid down by the majority of the Commission. The preparation of a famine code will certainly be a move in the right direction; but we do not see the necessity of creating a Special Department such as has been recommended by the Commission. The Commissioners evidently desire that each province should have a department of agriculture on the model of the Department in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, which is presided over by Mr. Buck. This Department, the reader knows, was created by Sir John Strachey, while Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces; and it is but natural that his ardent admirer and disciple, Mr. Elliot, should recommend the creation of such a department in all the provinces of the Empire. The Commissioners dwell on the importance of collecting improved agricultural, vital, and economic statistics; of putting putwaris or village accountants where they exist on a sound and satisfactory footing as responsible public officers, with a clearly defined set of duties; of resuscitating this class in Bengal and Sindh where it has ceased to exist; of having a staff of kanungoes for supervising the putwaris; of appointing a special officer in each district of the rank of a deputy collector to take charge of all matters connected with the economic condition and well-being of the people, and of placing the proposed special department in each province under the charge of a Director of Agriculture, chosen for his knowledge of the condition of the people, and particularly of the agricultural classes. When each province is provided with an Agricultural Department under its own Director, the Government of India must of course have a special Agricultural Department to assist the Supreme Government "in its dealings with the local Governments in the Agricultural Department, and in the supervision of the local Directors." Thus if the proposals of the Commission are accepted the lately abolished Department of Agriculture under the Government of India will have to be revived and each province provided with its own Department of Agriculture. We earnestly hope the Government will not allow itself to be guided in this matter by the Famine Commission. The North-West Agricultural Department has failed as yet to justify its existence, as we have recently shown in these columns. It has not even succeeded in improving the class of patwaris and kanungoes, though a considerable portion of its time and attention has been devoted to this work since its establishment. The simple truth is, that it is utterly impossible to secure the honesty and efficiency of a class of public servants like the putwaris, the vast majority of whom draw the magnificent salary of Rs. 6 or 8 per mensem. Statistics whether agricultural, vital or economic, if not perfectly accurate and trustworthy, are worse than useless; and the difficulty of collecting accurate and trustworthy statistics, as everybody acquainted with the circumstances of the country knows well is almost insurmountable. The members of the Famine Commission have probably forgotten that Sir George Campbell made many futile attempts to revive the class of putwaris and kanungoes in Bengal. The creation of a Department of Agriculture for each province, we have no hesitation in saying, will involve the waste of a great deal of public money, while the measure will not be productive of any beneficial results worth the name.

THE CALCUTTA REVIEW ON THE NEW RENT BILL.

II.

WE now come to the *Reviewer's* discussion of Act X. of 1859 and of the principal innovations contained in the draft Bill. He says: "Mr. Mackenzie is very angry with the High Court judges as a rule. When he says, "I decline to waste time in dis-cussing Mr. Steer's views of the law,—a judge who could say.... shows such blank ignorance of the revenue history of the country as to be unfit even to enter the arena of discussion," we feel no difficulty in understanding him. When he characterises Sir Barnes Peacock as the "sheet-anchor" of the "school" of the landholders, we imagine he sees in the name an emblem of hope to landholders. But when he says of Sir Richard Garth that he has "accepted the views of the zemindary propaganda;" we really cannot guess to what "secret association for the spread of opinions and principles which are viewed by most Governments with horror and aversion" to which we find the name *propaganda* is applied in modern political language. Mr. Mackenzie alludes. (*Calcutta Gazette*, pp. 419, 116; and *Brande and Cox's Dictionary of Science. Literature, and Art.* New edition, vol. 3, p. 113)." The *Reviewer* then analyzes the right of occupancy and its incidents as defined in Act X. of 1859, and thus argues the question of the transferability of the tenure. There are three arguments *for* transferability adduced in the Appendix to the Digest, to which we are referred by the report. The *first* argument descants on the magic of property which we found in operation in 1793, and which has ever since operated to good effect whenever a zemindari has been put up to auction for the realisation of Government revenue. The ruling idea of the Draft Bill is to create peasant proprietorship in Bengal. James Mill lamented, not long after the event, the loss of the grand opportunity which existed in India in 1793 to create a vast system of peasant proprietorship,—an opportunity "to which the history of the world presents not a parallel." James Mill is well known to have been no lover of the landowners or the rich in any country, but he did not indulge in the hope that peasant proprietorship might with justice be made to flourish side by side with the Permanent Settlement. And, after all, it is very remarkable that those who are best acquainted with the Belgian and French systems of peasant proprietorship, are slowest to predict great things from the transplantation of the systems into foreign countries, or the introduction of systems carved and contrived after their pattern. Over-population, sub-letting and sub-dividing, are the three most prominent features in the economical condition of the Bengal peasantry. The Commissioners cannot check over-population nor do they propose to impose any checks on minute sub-division or under-letting; on the contrary they permit under-letting to the extent of allowing a right of occupancy to grow *within* a right of occupancy. On this point he quotes Babu Peary Mohun Mookerjea and Sir Richard Garth. The latter remarks :

"I should have thought that the most effectual way of protecting such people (meaning the improvident ryots of Bengal), and preventing them from wasting their substance, would be to secure them a permanent interest in their property, by *prohibiting the alienation of it in any shape or way*. They might be allowed to underlet in the case of minors, lunatics, or others labouring under disability; and some means might be taken for protecting (for a time at least) present interest which have been created by way of underlease. But I should have said that, with these exceptions, it would be more prudent to prevent underletting altogether."

The *Reviewer* then goes on :

The *second* argument for transferability is based upon the *advantage to the landlord* of these holdings being saleable for arrears of their own rent. It is by no means easy to understand the meaning of this argument. The landlord already has the power of bringing these holdings to sale in execution of decrees for their own rent, and if a large number of such holdings be brought into the market, as the proposed change will infallibly bring, the effect will be a fall in their price and, *pro tanto*, a diminution of the landlord's security for rent.

The *third* and last argument for transferability is perhaps thrown in as a mere makeweight. It amounts to just this: if you decide to make occupancy holdings transferable, the Bengal Council will be saved the trouble of framing rules, and the Bengal High Courts will be saved the trouble of looking after their proper application, *when* the question of tenants' improvements shall arise in Bengal, as it has arisen in other countries, where the tenants are wont to spend money and labour in the improvement of their holdings. The Commissioners withal have themselves contrived to raise the question in Chapter IV. of the Draft Bill, which we shall examine by and by.

He thus discusses the new right of occupancy created by the Draft Bill :

The result is, that a ryot who has held for *three* years is regularly entitled to hold on at the rent which he has been paying; if a higher rent is asked, he has only to tell the landlord that he does not mean to continue on the land; the tables are now turned, and it becomes the landlord's

duty to *pay* to the ryot one years' rent at the higher rate. If the landlord fails to pay this sum within one month, the ryot shall be entitled to hold on at the old rent. But suppose the ryot neglects to pay even the old rent, he is not to be ejected unless the landlord is ready and willing to pay him full compensation for any hut that he may have put up, or any fruit trees that he may have planted, or anything else which he may have done on the land which the Munsiff of the place may regard as an agricultural "improvement." Suppose, however, that the ryot has "scourged" the land, or wilfully allowed it to lapse into jungle, or otherwise helped to depreciate it, such a supposition is not permitted in Chapter IV. Again, such a ryot may claim *abatement* of the rent paid by him; if the landlord is unwilling to allow it, why the ryot may give up the land and compel the landlord to pay him one year's *unabated* rent and compensation for "improvements" as before Then think of the litigation concerning *compensation for improvements* which the landlord by asking for higher rent, may incur the obligation of giving, or the ryot by claiming abatement, may acquire the right of receiving. The question of compensation for improvements will arise in the following cases :—

1*st*.—If the ryot is turned out for refusing to pay the *old rent*.

2*nd*.—If the ryot is turned out for doing something which he had *expressly* agreed to do on pain of being turned out, when he entered upon the land.

3*rd*.—If the landlord asks for higher rent, and the ryot refuses to pay it.

4*th*.—If the ryot claims abatement and, the landlord refuses to allow it.

One of the native members of the Commission, Babu Peary Mohun Mookerji, observes, with reference to these provisions of the Draft Bill, that the compensation for disturbance, *plus* the compensation for houses built or works done on the land, "perhaps without the landlord's knowledge or consent," will generally exceed the price at which existing occupancy holdings are sold, and consequently *these* ryots will in many cases enjoy a more valuable right than existing occupancy ryots. Another native Member of the Commission,, Babu Mohiny Mohun Roy remarks :—

"Chapter IV, Sections 26 to 31.—Investing three-year ryots with occupancy rights in a modified form. *This is a flagrant change, and requires no comment.*" (*Calcutta Gazette* p. 112.) This new "creature of the statute" is indeed a prodigy, and calls for no comment, but many notes—of admiration,

The *Reviewer* makes pertinent remarks upon the enhancement clauses and some other provisions of the Bill, and thus concludes :

"We have examined the true character and tendency of some of the fundamental changes in the substantive law proposed by the Commissioners; but the Draft Bill is susceptible of criticism upon an immense multitude of minor points, which will no doubt receive adequate criticism, if the Bill be introduced into the Bengal Council. In the interests of justice and in the true interests of the ryot, we are bound to declare that the Bill, in its presents shape, is the embodiment of theories which are alike novel and alarming It was the pride and the boast of the authors of the Permanent Settlement that the agrarian polity which they established in Bengal was not founded upon abstract theories drawn from England or other foreign countries. But the legislation recommended by the Rent Law Commission is the practical fruit of a theory of the Permanent Settlement evolved from inedited State-literature; of a theory of peasant-proprietorship which is merely an empirical induction from a second-hand knowledge of foreign land-systems; of a theory of equitable relief which is equally unknown to our own Courts and to English chancery; of a theory of disclaimer which is the historical product of feudality, and of a theory of rent applicable to modern Bengal which the Commissioners have improvised for themselves. Legislating for an agricultural population of sixty millions, and concerning landed property of the annual value of more than thirteen *crores*, the Commissioners had before them the scantiest information conceivable touching the actual condition and various requirements of the peasant population in the various districts of Bengal, and the practical operation, whether for good or for evil, of the existing law of landlord and tenant. Theory was very powerfully represented in the Commission, and swayed with a high hand all its deliberations; but practical acquaintance with the realities of peasant life in Bengal, and, above all, practical common-sense views of what was just in the actual circumstances, were much too inadequately represented. Babus Peary Mohun Mookerjea and Mohiny Mohun Roy represented, and we believe were, in the original constitution of the Commission, designed to represent, the interests of the landholders. Babu Peary Mohun Mookerjea, for one, made a firm stand against the meditated encroachments on the vested rights of the landholders; he was ably seconded by Babu Mohiny Mohun Roy, who was, however, unfortunately, but, we understand not unexpectedly, prevented by his professional engagements from devoting to the work of the Commission the time and attention which its importance demanded; but they both found themselves exactly in a minority of two, upon the many important questions affecting the interests of their body. We cannot help wishing that the co-operation of two or three additional landholders from different parts of Bengal had been secured, and their valuable local experience utilised, and placed in a position to exercise its due influence in the discussion of the immense questions dealt with by the Commission. There never was such a vast scheme of land-legislation planned and finished in so short a time, and upon such a slight ground-work of facts and figures,—upon such insufficient data regarding the actual condition and real tendencies of the land-system, into which it is proposed to introduce extensive and fundamental modifications One looks in vain in the huge *Calcutta Gazettee* Special for any considerable body of statistics regarding the rural economy of the various districts of Bengal, which everywhere presents well-remarked peculiarities that it cannot be wise to overlook. The great "uncertainty of agricultural experience" in this country is fully admitted in the report, but the due sense of the danger of reliance on theories that do not admit of being tested by the carefully gathered results of wide and long-continued observation, did not make itself felt in the decision of the Commission. To crown their achievements in the high a *priori* style of theorising, the Commissioners have, with singular perspicuity, enunciated a theory of property, about which all established Governments maintain a discreet reticence. "As to the power of the Legislature to re-distribute property in land at any time when such a re-distribution is required in the interests of the entire community, there can be no doubt," says the Report. And the Commissioners add :—"If such a re-distribution has for its immediate result the impairment of existing interests, compensation is *usually* given by *civilised* Legislatures; and we are of opinion that this rule should prevail, if anything contained in the Draft Bill constituted such a case." None but a fool or madman will deny the *power* of the Legislature to re-distribute property in land—and indeed private property of every other description; but the majority of the Commissioners having come to the clear conclusion that nothing contained in the Draft Bill constituted a case calling for the application of the rule of compensation, we should have thought that the Commissioners would have seen that it was superfluous on their part to qualify the statement of the rule by an implicit reference to the lamentable contrast exhibited in the suicidal practice of barbarous governments, and the highly exceptional cases in which the rule is departed from by civilised governments which find it to their advantage to adopt it for their habitual guide. Besides, the mere will and ability to award compensation, if necessary, are very far from justifying any sudden re-distribution of the landed property of the community, such sudden-redistribution being invariably followed by a profound disturbance in the social organism. The ancient bounds and divisions of the people's property ought to be respected, and legislation ought *in ordinary times* to adapt itself to them, accepting them, as unalterable, like the physical bounds and divisions of the country. The Permanent Settlement is a great accomplished fact in Bengal, and can already claim an antiquity of nearly a century; and it has only just recovered from the position of unstable equilibrium into which it was—we still cling to the belief *unintentionally* —thrown by Act X. of 1859. The elaborate Draft Bill in two parts is designed to upset it,—it does not propose this or that minor alteration in the multiform system of rights which has grown under the shadow of the Permanent Settlement, but it deliberately aims a decisive blow at its fundamental conditions :—

> But that two-handed engine at the door
> Stands ready to smite once, and smite no more.

This article is a stunning answer to some of the most important points raised in the new Rent Bill, but it is not exhaustive. We hope the writer will continue the subject in the next number of the *Review*.

THE MORADABAD CASE.

THE judgment of the Magistrate in the Moradabad case, which is now published, puts us in possession of the grounds of his action in the matter. It appears that Mr. H. DoMoule, the Magistrate, came to know of the impeached publications of Munshi Indarman through some local Mahomedan prints, which condemned them severely. He says: "One or two papers published by Musalmans earnestly called the attention of Government to the gross insults therein offered to Mahomedans and their religion, and pointed out the extreme degree of ill-feeling and strife between the members of the rival creeds thereby excited. An extract from one of these papers containing a demand for interference on this ground was sent to me by Government for information. I then requested Mir Imdad Ali, C.S.I., a Musalman Deputy Magistrate of well known high character, loyalty, and experience, to look through the works under discussion and to report to me what passages of an objectionable and inflammatory nature might be therein discovered." Mr. Moule was quite right in having the works examined and translated, but he committed two mistakes here. In the first place he ought not to have entrusted this duty to his Mahomedan Deputy, for though we do not by any means question his integrity and impartiality, we cannot deny that in a matter in which the Hindus and the Mahomedans were so angrily arrayed against each other, some neutral person, who would be above all suspicion, should have been employed as the reporter and translator. In the second place the whole work should have been translated and not isolated passages. Mr. Moule himself admits that "there are passages in the sacred books of most, perhaps of all, religions which it would be clearly indecent and obscene to excerpt and reprint in a book meant for general publication with the intention of putting forward the indecencies prominently as much and apart from the religious history or description in which they occur. To take a simple illustration the possession of Prem Sagor by a Hindu may be blameless. But an English translation of excepted and especially indecent passages would, I conceive, bring the compiler within the grasp of the law. But he has not applied the principle herein enunciated to the works before him. He did not as we have already remarked, get the whole book translated but only certain passages, on which his Mahomedan Deputy had reported. Perhaps, though we cannot be positive, because we have not seen the books, the objectionable passages might not appear so if they were read with the whole text.

The Magistrate, we must confess, exercised due discretion in trying the case under the obscene words clause of the Penal Code and thus avoiding religious controversy. He writes :

I thought it, however, undesirable to call upon Government to put in force the provisions of the law special, perhaps unpopular, and right or wrongly supposed to be moribund, except as a last recourse.

II. I might have awaited a private prosecution of the accused on a charge of defamation which was threatened, and would have been based on certain reflections on the character of Mahomedan women in general. But the result of this may have been a long and uncertain litigation, in which the two great religious parties in the district would have been practically engaged as plaintiffs and defendants with a tenfold exasperation of the bitter feelings already excited, and a thousandfold advertisement of the books which it is desired to suppress.

III. I therefore elected the third available course and took up the case myself, as a matter concerning the public order and morals. By these reasons the enquiry has been confined to the narrowest possible limits, all religious debate has been strictly kept out of Court, and the proceedings have been commenced and concluded within three days.

Of the three courses open to the Magistrate the one adopted by him was certainly the least offensive, but he should have remembered that whatever action might have been taken by the authorities, it should have been even-handed, for at the bottom there was a deep religious rancour between the two parties, and the prosecution of the one to the exclusion of the other could not but be regarded as a favour shewn to the latter. Under the circumstances it would have been better, if the Magistrate had allowed the aggrieved to seek their own remedy in a court of justice. If the prosecution had been left to them, both the parties would have met each other on a common ground. But the Magistrate, by instituting the prosecution himself, has unnecessarily given offence to the opposite party. We can well believe that he has been thoroughly impartial in his action and judgment, but he ought to remember what the Court of Directors used to say—it is not enough to do justice, it is necessary that the people should feel that justice has been done to them. We cannot say this of Mr. Moule's action in the present case. He may have done justice in this case, at any rate he has done justice according to his own conscience, but we are sorry to find that the Hindus do not seem to be satisfied that justice has been done to them. He did not order a private prosecution, because he did not like to see an "exasperation of the bitter feelings already excited," but has this untoward result been prevented? The letters we have already published on the subject show that the consummation so devoutly wished for has not been accomplished. Here is another letter on the same subject :

Sometimes ago the Mahomedan Sect showed their inveterate hatred and long established ill-feeling towards their Hindu brethren by publishing a book entitled *Tahfutool Hind*, in which the principles and doctrines of Dharm Shastra and Purans, and customs and usages religiously observed by the Hindu Community, are unjustly exposed to satires and lampoons in grossly insulting terms. This act was no doubt not only against the moral and social laws which every person as a member of Society in general is bound to observe and keep uninjured, but is against the ordinances of their own religious and holy book the Koran which is very clear on this point and runs thus : do not despise other objects of worship than God—lest their worshippers may despise God on account of their foolishness and enmity. No tribe is to look down with contempt on the other tribe. The one might be better than the other. (Vide Koran, Surah Imam and Hujrat.) Munshi Indarman a celebrated and learned resident of Moradabad, on the appearance of the above book, consisting of insulting and abusive words against the honor of the Hindu religion, solely with a view to defend the injured cause of his religion without any vicious or evil motive, of course published a reply to the same called Tahfatool Islam, bringing forth proofs for his arguments from Koran, Hadees &c.

The Mahomedan Set not satisfied with the insults and abuses which they had already maliciously offered in provoking terms to the Hindu religion and Hindu Community in general, brought several other publications to light such as Khilatool Hanood, Ayjaz, Mahomedi &c. debasing and disgracing in stronger tones the principles and doctrines of Hinduism and gave occasion for controversial disputes and subsequent replies, such as Padash Hind, Hamala-i-Hind, Salar-i-Hind &c. Formerly books such as Deen-Hakkee Tahkeek, Tahkee-Kul-Imam &c. were published by the Christians; and Izalatool Awhini &c. by the Mahomedans.

The publication of replies by Munshi Indarman was brought to the notice of the Magistrate of Moradabad who gave the following decision. (We have not space for the judgement *in extenso* Ed. H. P.)

Although it has been stated in the decision that "the fact that other books containing similar passages have no

doubt been published before this and frequently have escaped punishment; yet such an order as stated above has been passed. It is quite evident that if according to Section 293 of the Penal Code, any punishment can be inflicted for satire and filthy words, how can any exception be made for Mahomedans. It has also been stated in the decision that "all religious debate has been strictly kept out of Court." Still contrary to this statement punishment has been given only to one party for its satire. In such a case the best and proper course would have been to pass the same order with the same punishment for both the parties, thinking both of them subjects of the same Government of India. It is necessary to consider that the Mahomedans have originated the controversy and are the first to publish books full of filthy words and satire. A severe punishment ought to be inflicted on them where as a little punishment on the other party (Hindus) would be sufficient for an admonition and warning, for the decision says that "the author's intention was primarily controversial and as it were incidentally obsence." It has been stated in the decision that "pointed out the extreme degree of ill-feeling and strife" and "the increasing exacerbation of native opinion." It is a matter worth drawing the attention of Government that every one is at liberty to lay facts before the Supreme Government with humility and modesty, but has not the least right to show signs of ill-feeling and "strife."—Although the genuine authors of the books published by the Mahomedan Sect may not be found, yet those who published them those who keep them and those who sell them deserve punishment in accordance with Section 293 of the Penal Code which makes no exception for any sect.

We do not of course share the strong feeling of our correspondent, and therefore justify his strong words, but we cannot deny that the Hindus are now placed at a disadvantage. The Government having taken action against one, whom they look upon as their representative man, they naturally ask that the same action may be taken against their antagonists, but we do not believe that the Government will add fuel to the fire by acceding to their request. If they, however, wish to seek redress, they must bring a private prosecution against their rulers, and as regards this they may not without reason complain that the proceedings of the authorities have not been even-handed.

As regards the judgment of the Magistrate the passages objected to not being set forth we cannot say whether they come under the clauses of the Penal Code cited by the Magistrate or whether being read with the whole text, they would really merit judicial condemnation. One thing needs however be borne in mind—controversial literature necessarily embraces sarcasms, sneers, and invectives, and if they are made the subjects of criminal prosecutions, then there will be little room for freedom of discussion. At the same time we agree that religious controversy should not be allowed to degenerate into obscenity and low ribaldry.

MR. SOUTTAR AT BOMBAY.

THE BOMBAY REVIEW twits us for stating that Mr. Souttar, the worthy Chairman of our Municipality, was "utilizing his time in Bombay by looking into the ways of the local Municipality and studying its institutions." The *Review* exclaims, "clever man, Mr. Souttar, to study our institutions in less than a week!" Our contemporary evidently forgets that the Municipalities of Calcutta and Bombay are so much of a piece that it cannot be a hard task for the guiding spirit of either to mark off the differences in the two bodies within a short time. We wish Mr. Souttar had taken the trouble of recording at length his experiences and impressions of matters municipal at Bombay. He however, holds strongly to the opinion that comparisons are odious and thinks every good purpose will be best served by his bringing forward his experiences as they are called for and can be turned to account. Possibly he is right. We have, however, had the opportunity of hearing some of his impressions from his own lips, and are at liberty to reproduce some of them. Our reproduction must not be looked on as authoritative, but we think we can vouch for its substantial accuracy, and as so many of our readers take an interest in municipal matters, we need make no apology for this narrative.

Mr. Souttar arrived in Bombay on the evening of Monday the 18th ultimo, and was met by Dr. Blaney, President of the Town Council, an old friend whose guest he became. Fortunately also he found Mr. Barrow, Secretary of the Corporation, living with Dr. Blaney, so that he had access to the best sources of information at all times and with the least possible trouble. The morning of Tuesday had to be given to rest, but a long afternoon was given to a meeting of the Town Council, and to one of the Corporation which followed it.

These meetings are held in a large room available, and indeed practically reserved for the purpose in the spacious office building which the Corporation is fortunate enough to occupy. This building was it seems built according to a plan approved by the Corporation, but is private property and was leased to the Corporation for a term of years at Rs. 3000 a month. The lease has, however, been recently renewed at Rs. 1500. This we mention as a typical instance of the change that has taken place between the days of the reckless Arthur Crawford and of the present careful Commissioner.

Mr. Souttar was struck with the difference between the almost ornamental furnishing of this public room and the severe simplicity of our own Town Hall with its common chairs and tables. A beautiful banner emblazoned with the arms of the Corporation was hung upon the wall behind the Chairman and added greatly to the effect of the gathering. The banner is we may mention the gift of a generous Justice. The Town Council after disposing of some other business went through part of the Budget categorically and carefully, but, as Mr. Souttar remarked, without the same minuteness, which has been the practice in Calcutta in recent years. This no doubt is chiefly due to the very satisfactory financial position, in which the Bombay Corporation now finds itself and the confidence which it has in its present executive head, Mr. J. Hay Grant C. S. the Municipal Commissioner. We hope that this experience may soon be capable of reproduction in Calcutta. We can testify to the weary hours spent over the details of many Budgets. We shall hail relief with delight and no doubt it will gradually come.

The moderate number of the Town Council necessarily facilitates the prompt despatch of business. There are only twelve members, 8 appointed by the Justices, 4 by Government. They are moreover paid for attendance Rs. 30 per weekly meeting. The result apparently is to secure almost constant attendance on the part of the members, and in this way a full and continuous acquaintance with municipal business is no doubt secured. Mr. Souttar was greatly impressed by the promptitude so secured in the transaction of business at the Council; and by another result which was noticeable at the meeting of the Corporation which followed, viz, the readiness with which the Town Council's recommendations were accepted. The Commissioners having picked men to go into the details of municipal business for them, and, so to speak, having paid them for doing so, are apparently disposed to leave the responsibility as far as possible with those picked and paid representatives. With so careful and sound a head of the Executive as Mr. Grant, so public-spirited, energetic, and experienced but withal careful, and economical a Chairman as Dr. Blaney, and with such members as the present Town Council consists of, the Bombay plan, which we may remark is regulated by law, has been a decided success. But there are other considerations which cannot be overlooked. However, it is not necessary to discuss them here. Mr. Souttar is, we believe, to avail himself of an early opportunity to have the subject discussed by our own Town Council and Commissioners. We may therefore have to recur to the subject hereafter.

Mr. Souttar made the acquaintance of several of the Municipal Commissioners both European and native. Among the former, he says, was the Editor of the *Bombay Gazette*, who like his predecessor Mr. Maclean takes a hearty interest in municipal matters and contrives to find time to devote to them. Another editor, Mr. Wood, is also a zealous member of the Bombay Corporation. We wish some of their European brethren in Calcutta would follow their example. We feel sure that one result would be as in Bombay to make the criticism of some of our contemporaries both more intelligent and more sympathetic, and that this would be to the advantage of both.

Next morning Mr. Souttar was taken through the town to visit the markets, Crawford and other, by Sir F. Souttar, the Commissioner of Police. The first named is in parts very attractive owing to the separation of the meat markets from the other, and the combination of fountains and gardens, and such pleasing features with others more practical. Mr. Crawford's market is, however, owing chiefly to heavy initial cost not yet a financial success, in this resembling our own Municipal market. The markets that bring in revenue to the Municipality are some of the others, more purely native markets, of which the Bombay Municipality possesses several. Some are sources of great profit.

After spending part of the day with Mr. Grant the Municipal Commissioner Mr. Souttar devoted the afternoon to visiting the slaughter-house at Bandora in the company of the Superintendent of markets. This is some ten miles out of town on the Bombay and Baroda Railway, and the meat was brought in by Rail, until lately economy dictated a change to carts. The slaughter-house arrangements are, like our own, complete and efficient. It has the advantage of a water supply drawn direct from the main which passes close to it, as compared with ours which has a water supply of its own. But the features which ensure its success are a large and most profitable cattle-market, which is part of the scheme, and the fact that the meat eating classes at Bombay have twice as many cattle killed for their use as the meat-eating population of Calcutta. The Parsees are great meat eaters and there are many other native meat eaters on that side of India.

The following day (Thursday) was spent by Mr. Souttar at the Municipal Office in conference with Mr. Grant, the Assistant Engineer in charge, the Health-Officer and other heads of Departments. The able accountant, a Parsee gentleman, was unfortunately absent on leave.

A very marked and valuable feature of the Account Department is the daily audit. The Corporation has two independent auditors, who sit at their work in the Municipal Office two or three hours daily, though they receive no more than Rs. 5000 a year between them. The result is that every thing is well up to hand, and that clear balance sheets under the main heads, are published weekly. There is we think matter here for the consideration of our Commissioners.

The Health-Officer, Dr. Weir, is in the sole employ of the Municipality at Bombay. He is an executive officer under the Chairman, and, in addition to the duties of our Health Officer, has charge of the Conservancy establishment and arrangements. This system appears to have given satisfaction in Bombay.

With the Engineer in charge Mr. Souttar went into matters in considerable detail both as to methods and results. His inquiries are beyond the scope of our present article, but we may note one or two advantages Bombay has over Calcutta. A chief one is in the Road Department in respect of the cheapness of good stone. There are quarries all over the island, and prices are low in proportion. In the matter of water supply again the town receives about 14 million gallons daily from Vehar and Tulsi together, while our supply roughly speaking is about half; as their supply comes from a great elevation they have the further advantage of a constant and high natural pressure, which does away with the necessity of the pumping stations, which are so costly an element in our system. On the other hand they do not filter, and are at present providing means for that and some needed storage by new reservoirs on the Malabar and Bandarwada Hills, which are part of the town.

In Drainage, we are far in advance. A small part of the town has been drained for some time in a partial and not very efficient fashion. Lately, a scheme has been begun, which will include the whole town. This is a heavy work which Bombay has still before it. In the evening Mr. Souttar had the advantage of another drive through the town, including a look at the Malabar Hill Reservoir with the Commissioner of Police.

Next (Friday) morning Mr. Souttar devoted to outdoor inspection with the Engineer, Mr. Braham, the Health-Officer and the Secretary to the Corporation. The most interesting features were the milch cattle sheds where the Municipality finds room for many hundred milch cattle in specially constructed sheds. The accommodation is paid for and the system made self-supporting; the object is not gain so much as improved sanitation and the testimony appears to be unanimous that the system is a success. There is matter for our consideration here.

Somewhat similar in principle is the dhobi wada, an establishment where all the dhobis of the town are accommodated with the means of carrying on their business at fair rates. The Esplanade was used we believe for their location formerly, and as they had to leave this central portion of the town the municipal authorities provided for them in the way stated.

The Lovegrove pumping station, where much of the town sewage is shot out into the sea, was also inspected. Here again Bombay has the advantage of discharging its sewage at a much nearer point than our system renders possible. The chief sight of the morning was, however, the reclamation work, which has been going on for years and will go on for many years to come, on the flats beteen Byculla and Vellar. The conservancy carts have to come but a mile or two and discharge their contents on these flats, which are thus gradually being reclaimed and turned into fields and gardens. They are also a source of profit to the Municipality. The proximity of this work as compared with our remote and expensive Salt Water Lake reclamation is another advantage, which the Bombay Corporation has over us. We are bound to add however that of late there have been some objectors, the Byculla Club among the number, to the proximity of the reclamation work and the consequent smell.

The forenoon was given to a visit to the Police Office, and in the afternoon Mr. Souttar left. He had intended to stay a day or two longer but found the weather very exhausting, and not being quite well was afraid of over-doing his strength. He was able to bring a good deal of detailed information with him in the shape of reports and statements, while a futher supply including a complete set of the forms

in use in the Bombay Office is to follow by post. In this and in every other respect we believe Mr. Souttar met with the greatest courtesy at the hands of all the municipal officers. We are glad to learn that there is a prospect of some of them visiting Calcutta this cold weather. It is not a mere matter of interchange of courtesies. The comparison of systems and experiences ought to be productive of good to both Corporations.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES

WE HEAR that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor will probably return to Calcutta by the 23rd instant.

WE ARE exceedingly glad to observe that Rao Saheb Vishvanath Narayan Mandlik, C. S. I. has been re-appointed a member of the Bombay Legislative Council in the room of Mr. Morarji Goculdas deceased. A better selection could not have been made. Mr. Mandlik is a leading representative man of Bombay, and has by his past services given the best evidence of his fitness to serve in the Legislative Council. He is able, well-informed, enlightened, and thoroughly independent, and thus well fitted to represent his countrymen in the Legislative assembly.

OF THE elected Municipalities in the Mofusil Serampore is regarded as the most successful. But even there we are sorry to hear has commenced the usual struggle between Despotism and Constitutional Government. The Chairman of the Municipality has reported against the Municipal Commissioners, and the Government has raised the money qualifications of the electors and the candidates for election, the effect of which will be, we are told, to eliminate the present independent element in the Commission. We have received some important papers on the subject, which we propose to notice at leisure.

MADRAS has sent up a strong protest to the Secretary of State against the periodical exodus of the Madras Government to the Hills. The memorialists have put the case plainly enough. They say :

"That if the Presidency of Madras can be governed efficiently for the greater portion of the year from Ootacamund, there is no reason why it should not be governed in like manner from Calcutta or from London, if it were so Governed from London such a reduction could be effected in the expenditure of state money as would materially affect imperial taxation."

"That if it be considered expedient that the present system should continue, then your Memorialists submit that the salaries and allowances of the Governor and of all the officials who accompany him to the Hills should be revised so as to suit an altered state of circumstances. Your Memorialists submit that it is absurd that the local heads of Government should be paid splendid salaries on the presumption that they work in the heat of the plains of India at great personal discomfort, and that they should be permitted in breach of the terms of their constructive engagements not only to evade the hardest portion of such engagements, but to endanger the efficient working of their respective departments, and practically to cut themselves off from communication with the inhabitants of this Presidency, and to put the State to enormous extra trouble and expense in order to secure their pessonal ease and comfort, while hundreds of European officials, including the judges of the High Court and all other officers, Revenue, Military, Judicial and Police, the scale of whose salaries was fixed upon the same constructive engagements continue to remain and do their work efficiently in the plains of India.

These arguments apply *pro tanto* to the Simla Exodus.

KUMAR KANTI CHUNDER SING, as Chairman of the Suburban Rate-payers' Association, Ward No. 1, has submitted a protest against the proposed extension of the Calcutta Water Supply to the Suburbs. The objections of the Association are chiefly based on the poverty of the people. Kumar Kantichunder writes :

The scheme for the extension of water-supply as at present proposed is too partial, and will scarcely benefit the poor. Moreover, the condition of the people in general within this ward is such that an addition of 5½ per cent. water tax will be highly oppressive. In that case the total aggregate of taxes in the Suburbs will almost equal that in town which the Suburban rate-payers, it must be admited, will scarcely be able to bear.

We hope the Suburban Municipality will take into due consideration the representation of the Suburban Rate-payers' Association.

THE ALIPORE Sepoy case has been concluded. The Deputy Magistrate, Hou'ble Syud Amir Hossein, has delivered an able and elaborate judgment. He has it appears taken great trouble in siftiug the facts of the case, and has convicted two men out of nine. The case was rather a serious one. A Sepoy of the line named Rungasway had one evening traspased into the house of a neighbour Kalkatia, the wife of the latter cried out "thief! thief!" and laid hold of the legs of the man, her husband and some neighbours came to her protection, the chowkidar on duty was also present. There was a scuffle, some other Sepoys also joined the crowd and took part of their comrade. The Police Superintendent Mr. Hill thus describes the scene : "He resides a few hundred yards off from the Sepoys lines and came to the spot immediately. He saw the doors of Kalkatia's house with their frames broken. He saw about 8 or 10 Sepoys coming out of Kalkatia's house, and about 40 or 50 about the place. He says, "On going into the *parah*, I found several houses and walls broken, as it was said, by the Sepoys. I found complainant Din Ali lying in the verandah of the house apparently badly hurt. I asked him how he had got hurt. He said that the sepoys had beaten him, because he had remonstrated with them for beating the police constable. I sent him to the hospital. I directed the Sub-Inspector to find out the *parawallah*. I found one of the sepoys, named Abdul Karim, come out of Kalkatia's house with a bamboo in his hand. I took out the bamboo from his hand, which he gave up not willingly." Only Rungasway and a bandsman were identified, and they were therefore convicted and punished. The remaining seven, who had been hauled up, having proved their *alibi*, and their identification not being satisfactory, were let off. The native officers it would seem rendered no assistance to bring their men to justice. The Deputy Magistrate remarks :

"In this case, there is not a single sepoy or native officer of the 14th M. N. I, who has come forward to aid the law and justice. It is not for me to say why. Several native officers have been examined on behalf of the defence, and some of them, who had arrived at the spot when the row was going on, might have told the court as to who were the rioters, but in spite of the rigid and searching cross-examination of the learned pleader for the prosecution they have not uttered a word condemnatory of their comrades. The Band Sergeant, George Toole, is the only exception, who by his frank and straightforward statement, has confirmed the statement of the prosecution against one of his bandsmen, the defendant Delima. It would have, I think, been better if this case had been departmentally dealt with under Article 70, Act V of 1880, for the commanding officer had great and more reliable means of arriving at the truth than what the Police and the Court have. I do not see why this cannot be done now."

We hope these remarks of the Deputy Magistrate will receive due consideration from Government.

WE HAVE much pleasure in giving the following telegraphic account of the public meeting held by the Behar Landholders' Association anent the new Rent Bill :

Bankipore, November 5.—The Behar Landholders' Association held an influential meeting at 3 o'clock to-day. Delegates from all the districts were present, the Maharaja of Darbhanga presided. The following resolutions were carried :

First, that the provisions of the draft of the rent law prepared by the member of the rent commission vitally affact the proprietory interest of the Zemindars, as guaranteed to them by the permanent settlement.

Second, that the provisions of the Bill do not fall within the original scope of the amendment which had been proposed to be made in the law of landlord and tenant, nor do they fall well within the power reserved to the Governor-General at the time of the permanent settlement to enact laws for the protection of the welfare of dependent Talukdars and rayats. That while the advantages offered by the Bill to the rayats are substantial and new, the advantages to landlords are nil ; that by no means can one be said to be equivalent to the other ; that the Bill in fact proposes redistribution of property between landlord and tenant without offering compensation to the landlord for what is taken away from the sum of their rights.

Third, that under the present circumstances of the country when tenants are daily awaking to the consciousness of their rights and Zemindars do not look with disfavor on the assertion of such rights as are vested in them by the present law, when there are manifest signs all round that the condition of the peasantry is daily improving in Behar as in Bengal the Zemindars of Behar justly look with apprehension to the unsettlement of the present laws and with it the destruction of customary tenures which have prevailed for generations in Behar. They are also apprehensive that special provisions for Behar are calculated to affect seriously the interests of agriculture.

Fourth, that holding these views the meeting unanimously resolves the adoption of a memorial of the Association to the Lieutenant Governor as they think the draft bill open to the criticisms made in a note prepared by the committee of the Association showing how the provisions of the Bill are detrimental alike to the interest of the landlord and also to the tenant. They unanimously resolve to adopt the said note as part of their memorial.

Fifth, that a committee with powers to add to their number be appointed in each district in Behar for obtaining signatures to the memorial and that the same when signed be sent to the Government through the Behar Landholders Association.

Sixth, that the Zemindars in Behar beg most rsspectfully to offer their hearty thanks to the President of the Association, the Darbhangah Maharaja.

The meeting closed at half-past four.

We hope other districts in the Mofussil will follow the example of Behar.

THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION of Lahore has submitted a memorial to His Excellency the Viceroy praying that the proposition to sanction a separate University for the Punjab be rejected. To this end they adduce the following arguments :

1*st*.—That the Calcutta University being a purely examining body no tangible reasons have yet been shewn for holding it unfitted to discharge that function in this province. The fact that Lord Lawrence who had spent the best part of his life in the Punjab and than whom no one was better acquainted with the wants and wishes of its people was the head of the Indian Government at the time it declined to sanction the scheme for a separate University when first propounded seems to your memorialists to be a conclusive argument on the point.

2*nd*.—That the principles of the proposed University are of a retrograde and reactionary character in as much as it dispenses with English as a compulsory subject in all its examinations, thereby discouraging the study of that language.

3*rd*.—That English being dispensed with, the standard of instruction must necessarily be lower than that of other Universities, and the examination tests lower in proportion. This would have the effect of lowering the value of degrees granted by Indian Universities generally. Your memorialists have already pointed out that there is in the vernacular languages a sad want of text books for the Higher examinations. They further beg to submit that even if the required text-books one in each subject could be produced in a certain number of years they alone would not enable the students to acquire that amount of knowledge in any of the subjects of study which it is desirable men competing for University honours should possess.

4*th*.—That the degrees (B. A ; M. A. &c.,) conferred by the Presidency Universities are meant to imply a certain standard of scholarship in western science and literature. It would be an anomaly to grant the same degrees to persons who have no such scholarship.

The memorialists, however, forget that those who advocate the measure are the persons who wish for the shadow instead of the substance. They want not high proficiency and profound scholarship such as would enable the people of this country to hold their own against all and sundry, but material enough for rose-colored reports which would just suffice to throw dust on the eyes of European philanthropists.

IT AFFORDS us no little satisfaction to see a member of the Indian Press honored in England. Our readers are aware that Mr. Digby, editor of the *Madras Times*, on his retirement from India, took charge of the *Liverpool and Southport Daily News*. He has now joined the *Western Daily Mercury*, and as a token of the appreciation of his public services the Liberal Association of Southport presented him an address of thanks A public meeting presided over by the Lord Mayor of the town was held and some good speeches were made. We have read the proceedings with great interest and pleasure.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.		Rs.	As.	P.
Baboo	Soorjeenarain Singh, Bhaugulpore.....	13	4	0
"	Nilmadhub Bose, Serathoo.....	5	0	0
"	Soorjeecomar Dutt, Dacca.....	13	4	0
"	Pearymohun Bannerji, Midnapore.....	16	4	0
"	Mohendranath Bannerji, Hazareebaugh	6	10	0
"	Khetterpal Singh Roy, Hurrypal.....	13	4	0
"	Hurihur Mookerjee, Purneah.....	10	0	0
"	Thacoordas Mookerjee, Durbhangah...	10	0	0
"	Dwarkanath Mookerjee, Tipperah.....	10	0	0

Government Notifications.

Calcutta Gazette,—*November* 3, 1880

GENERAL.—*The* 19*th October* 1880.—Mr. H. H. Risley, Officiating Deputy Commissioner of Hazareebaugh, is appointed to act until further orders in the Third Grade of Deputy Commissioners, with effect from the date on which he relieved Major W. L. Samuells.

Lieutenant Guy Theophilus Campbell, of the 4th Battalion, 60th Rifles, is appointed to be an Aide—Camp on the Personal Staff of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, *vice* Lieutenant R. C. A. B. Bewicke.

Baboo Jogendro Nath Sen Sub-Deputy Collector, Seetamurhee, Mozufferpore, is allowed leave from the 24th to the 29th July 1879, under section 10, Supplement F of the Civil Leave Code.

Moulvi Mahomed Abdool Kadir, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector of Pubna, on leave, is transferred to the district of Maldah.

Mr. J. E. B. Jeffery, Officiating Magistrate and Collector of Furreedpore, on leave, is posted to that district as a Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, with effect from the date on which Mr. A. Weekes takes charge of his appointment as Officiating Magistrate and Collector of Furreedpore.

Mr. C. F. Magrath, Joint-Magistrte and Deputy Collector, is posted to Furreedpore, on being relieved of his present appointment as Officiating Magistrate and Collector of that district.

Mr. A. W. Mackie, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, who reported his arrival from leave on the 26th instant, is posted to Lohardugga, and is appointed to have charge of the Palamow division of that district.

Baboo Atal Behary Moitra, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Durbhunga, is allowed leave without pay for two months, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Moulvi Mahomed Soban Hyder, Sub-Deputy Collector of the First Grade, is appointed to act, until further orders, as a Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector in Chittagong.

Mr. R. H. Greaves, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, has been granted extension of leave for two months, on sick certificate, by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

Mr. J. O' Kinealy, C.S, reported his departure from India on furlough on the 11th October 1880.

Mr. J. F. Bradbury, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, 24-Pergunahs, is appointed to act, until further orders, as a Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the FirstGrade, with effect from the forenoon of the 11th instant.

Mr. F. W. J. Rees, Officiating Magistrate and Collector of Durbhunga, is appointed to act until further orders, in the Second Grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the forenoon of the 18th ultimo.

F. H. McLaughlin, District and Sessions Judge of Noakkholly, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the First Grade of District and Sessions Judges with effect from the 7th ultimo, *vice* Mr. T. T. Allen.

Moulvi Fuzlul Karim, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Monghyr, is allowed leave for three days, under section 10 Supplyment F of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him under orders of the 25th ultimo.

Mr. J. G. Charles, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector who reported his return from furlough on the 26th ultimo is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge, Rajshahye, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. T. T. Allen, or until further orders.

Mr. A. Weekes, Magistrate and Collector, Maldah, who reported his return from furlough on the 26th ultimo, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Furreedpore, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. J. Anderson or until further orders.

Baboo Okhoy Coomar Bose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Manbhoom is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act IX (B. C.) of 188.

POLICE.— Mr. C. H. C. Sevenoaks, Assistant Superintendent of Police, is posted to the district of Backergunge.

Advertisements.

Notice.

Calcutta, 5th November 1880.

The Office of the Private Secretary to the Viceroy, including the Government House Treasury, has been removed to the South-West Block, No. 16, of Loudon's Buildings (late Spence's Hotel).

The Private Secretary will continue to hold his personal office at Government House.

D. PANIOTY,
Assistant Private Secy. to the Viceroy.

HISTORY OF DARJEELING IN BENGALEE.

To be had of Babu Hurry Mohun Sanial, Darjeeling, and of Babu Hurry Nath Mojoomdar, Kumarkhali for Re. 1-4 including postage.

BENGAL BONDED WAREHOUSE ASSOCIATION.

In conformity with Section 5 of Act V. of 1854 a General Meeting of Proprietors will be held on Friday the 12th instant, at noon, for the inspection of accounts for the half-year ended 31st October last, the declaration of a Dividend, and for the transaction of any other business that may be brought forward.

Calcutta, 1st November 1880. } H. W. I. WOOD, Secretary.

The Temple of Urania ; or, The Art of Foretelling Events by Geomancy ; the Pythagorean Wheel of Fortune, &c., &c. By M. Nostradamus, Rs. 5 per copy. Apply to Mr. Thos. Smith, City Press ; and W. Newman & Co., Calcutta.

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Special Notice.

LIFE ASSURANCE DEPARTMENT.

Bonus Year, 1880.

THE Books for the currentQuinquennial Period close on 31st December next, when the profits accrued during the five years will be ascertained and divided.

All Policies on the Participating Scale opened in 1880, will share in that Division, and at the close of each future Quinquennium will rank for a higher Bonus compared with later Entrants.

The Bonus is calculated not only on the Original sum Assured, but also on all existing Bonus Additions previously declared.

At last Division in 1875 the Bonus ranged, according to the duration of the Policy, from £1-5s. to £2 per cent. per annum on the Original Sum Assured.

The Progressive Improvement of the Life Assurance Department may be marked by contrasting the following results for the first four years of the past Quinquennial Period with those of the present Quinquennium, *viz.*—

	1871-74.	1876-79,
New Assurances ...	£3,204,135	£3,998,880
Revenue	£1,542,144	£1,744,598
Additions to Funds ...	£321,077	£502,686

The rates are moderate and compare favorably with those of other offices, as the following examples will shew.

During life for assuring Rs. 1,000 *payable at death without profits.*

Age.	For Civilians. *Yearly.* Rs. A. P.	*Age.*	For Military Men. *Yearly.* Rs. A. P.
20 ...	25 6 0	20 ...	33 11 0
25 ...	27 2 0	25 ...	35 9 0
30 ...	29 7 0	30 ...	37 5 0
35 ...	32 7 0	35 ...	39 2 0
40 ...	35 14 0	40 ...	41 9 0
45 ..	40 3 0	45 ...	45 4 0
50 ...	46 6 0	50 ...	50 4 0

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The following are the translation of and extracts from only a few of the testimonials from patients who were cured by the use of my abovenamed medicines. They will be published in full in the form of a Pamphlet soon.

HEM CHUNDRA BANERJI,
Missir Pokhra, Benares.

DEAR SIR,

It is with mueh pleasure I bear testimony, to the great curative effect of your Cholera Pills purchased of you last year by my brother-in-law Babu Ishan Chundra Banerjee. In numerous cases of cholera it has been proved to be all what was claimed a speedy recovery. It was administered to some 40 cases and I am happy to say all of which proved quite successful, to say the truth it did miracles amongst us. If there be any genuine medicine for cholera I must say your "Cholera Pills" is the only one. I recommend every gentleman to have, during the cholera season, some of these pills in their hands so that they may reap the benefits of it in time. I consider it a boon amongst us and well worth the amount charged for.

You are at liberty to make use of above lines if you desire, as what I say is no exaggeration.

RAM SATYA MOOKERJI,
Behar Indigo Planters Association, Mozaffarpur.

My friend Baboo Kristo Nath Singha was bitterly suffering for about four years from Piles, Asthma and Debility. No one, for a moment, could believe that his health would be restored to him nor had they any hope of his life. As if inspired by the Almighty he began to use your Amritarasa and in a short time life was infused into him. The people here have taken it to be a miracle and the sufferers among them most importunately request you to take them under your treatment.

ESHUR CHUNDRA ROY,
Silk Factory, Chorebagan, Calcutta.

The patient who was suffering from the complication of Fever, Spleen, Asthma and other diseases has been thoroughly cured. His case was a hopeless one to Doctors and Boiddas who were consulted. The efficaciousness of your Amritarasa is wonderful.

RAM NARAIN SHAHA,
New Medical Hall, Bhaugulpore.

My youngest was under the treatment of many eminent physicians, owing to his suffering from Spleen, Dyspepsia, Diarrhœa and sores in mouth, for a protracted period of several years with no effect. At last he had recourse to your Amritarasa by the application of which he has regained his health, beauty and his usual liveliness.

RAKHAL DAS CHUCKERBUTTY,
Secy. Hit Sadhini Shobha.

Why should I refrain from enumerating the excellent qualities of your rare valuable and life-giving medicine "Amritarasa." A friend of mine who suffered for a long time from Head-ache and who tried every medicine English as well as Native has at last been relieved from his disease by using your Amritarasa.

RAJENDRA NATH DUTTA,
Secretary, Royna Club.

Amritarasa has been well-tried in the case of my mother who was suffering from colic pain. The result has been wholesome.

MOHIM CHUNDER BHUTTACHARJEE,
Gungarampore, Dinagepore.

Thanks to your "Amritarasa." I have seen the wonderful recoveries of Baboo Radha Nath Mokerjee and his wife from their respective maladies, fearful chronic dysentery and asthma of many years' standing.

SHAMA CHARN MITTRA,
Bansdiha.

A phial of your Amritarasa was used to check the attacks of Dysentery, Dyspepsia and Fever in a lying-in woman. She has perfectly recovered.

HURRI DOYAL CHOUDRY,
Worookshaha, Burdwan.

The wife of my friend was suffering from dysmenorhœa. In times the discharge of blood in her was frightful, and to such an extent that any one would swoon away before the sight. She was under treatment of every description. I am glad to inform you that she owes her recovery to your Amritarasa only.

RAKHAL DASS CHUCKERBUTTY.
Secy. Hit Sadhini Shabha, Nandan, Burdwan.

One of my relatives is almost entirely cured from the complication of such diseases, as chronic fever, spleen and diarrhœa of 7, 5 and 1 years standing respectively. With all these he was greatly reduced too. The efficaciousness of your Amritarasa is beyond description.

MADHUB CHANDRA BASU.
Mymari, Burdwan.

Amritarasa holds the most wonderful power of efficacy in the cure of hysteria, my wife had not had any attack of it since she used it.

SOORESH CHANDRA GHOSE.
Asstt. Surgeon, Roorki.

Eighteen times I procured your medicine which being administered in cases of Asthma, Gout, Chronic fever, Acidity and many other diseases proved quite successful except in the cases of two persons; my wife owes her recovery to this medicine.

DOORGA CHURN BANERJEA.
Bhowanipur, Calcutta.

I bought your medicine to the extent of a sum of Rs. 500. This is a wonderful medicine. In most obstinate diseases it has shown its wonderful power of curing as if by charm. Its efficacy has been fully observed in the cure of such diseases as colic pain, asthma, new and chronic consumption, chronic dysentery, hysteria and other female affections.

KYLASH CHUNDRA ROY MAHASOY.
Zemindar and Honorary Magistrate
Dehoorda, Baleswar.

This wretch is not going to leave you even now but this time I have brought with me such happy news that I am sure I will not incur your displeasure.

Last year exactly in this time, I procured 2 phials of your Amritarasa which you might not remember. For the last 20 years I was suffering from Dyspepsia, Doctors and Kobirajes were consulted in vain. It was also made known to you that I was a great opieta. After the receipt of your wonderful medicine I used one of the two phials but not a particle of good had been done to me notwithstanding I was convinced that the medicine will not be of any use to me untill I can renounce the habit of using opium. But you know Sir, what a difficult task it is for a man like myself to leave opium. This year, however, for various reasons I have renounced my old habit of using opium and have used the remaining one phial with a wonderful wholesome result. I am now thoroughly convinced that I will have my relief by using this medicine. The disease being of many years standing I shall have to use it for a long time for which I send you Rs. 22 for four phials of your Amritarasa. Please comply. I request you not to give this medicine to any one accustomed to the use of opium because in doing so it will be brought to misuse.

SHURID CHUNDER BANERJEE
2nd Clerk, Tipperah Post Office.

Ten rupees worth Cholera Pills bought from you were all used with success. All the patients were cured.

ROMONI KANT ROY
Damrah, Manickgunge.

Ninety patients were cured by your Cholera Pills which I procured.

GOPAL CHUNDER ADHOORJA
Maliara, Doorgapore.

I have great pleasure to inform you that I tried your Cholera Pills in fifty cases, in all of which they proved successful except in the cases of 5 or 7 persons whose diseases were in their most advanced state.

C. W. RICHARDSON.
Chairman, Satara Municipality.

I am requested by the Maharajah of Burdwan to inform you that during the outbreak of Cholera here which happened to occur among the Maharaja's servants your pills were tried and proved to be the best remedy in the cur of this infectious disease.

T. B. MILLER.
Private Secretary.

I have great pleasure in saying that in the year 1876 I have cured 80 out of 86 persons suffering from Cholera with the pills of Baboo Hem Chundra Banerjee. The Civil Surgeon of Benares made an enquiry of me regarding these cures and has kept with him all the papers showing the result and written by my own hand.

GOPEE NATH SOOKOOL.
Benares.

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R. WALLNUTT, C. E.,
District Engineer, Road Cess Committee.
Mymensingh, 12th October 1880.

আদরিণী।

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